

Maclean's

October 18, 1999

Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine

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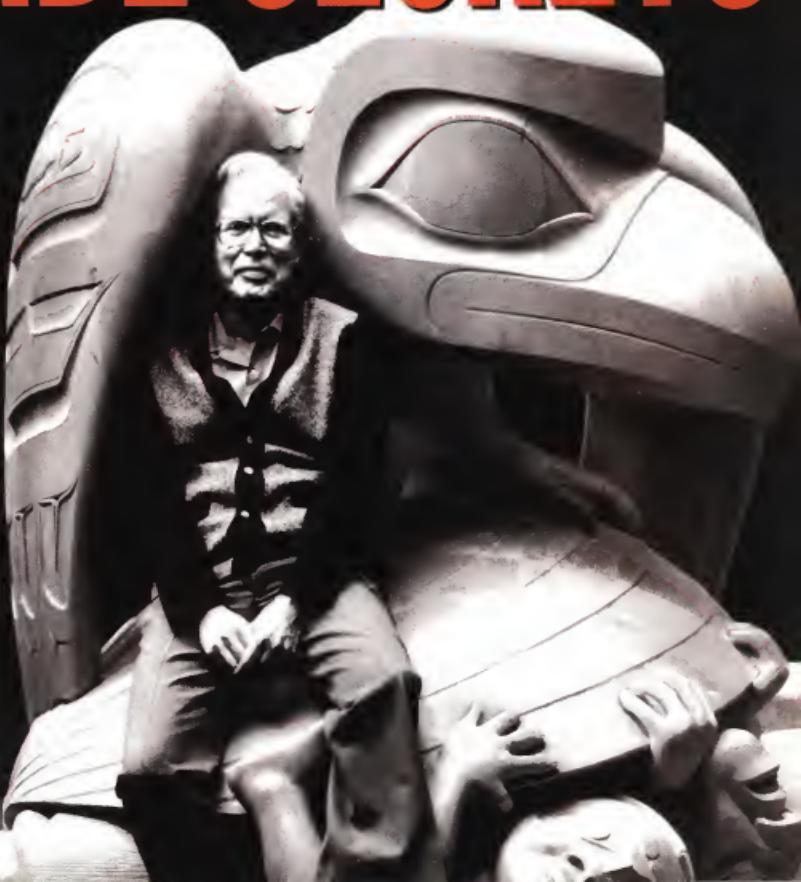
EXCLUSIVE

TRADE SECRETS

**Haida artist
Bill Reid was
a national icon.
But much of
his work was
not his own.**

The inside
story of a
tortured genius

By Jane O'Hara



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This Week

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Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine
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The trial of South Africa's notorious 'De Death' draws in neo-nazis across the new Canada



④ Trade secrets

For many Canadians, Haida artist Bill Reid was a national icon. But because of denominational health, he was increasingly forced to rely on other artists to produce his work. In the end, that practice left a legacy of bitterness—and burning questions over the issue of artistic authorship.

Features



44 A global food fight

Rising protests against genetically modified foods are making Canadian crops virtually unavailable in Europe. Activists are also trying to rally consumers in Canada.

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Open (II) Reinhard Heimholz The Coase and the Rule Rule (in 1982) in 80th Anniversary USC Research in Law and Economics, Institute for Economic Research, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.



82 Do we need more doctors?

While communities plead for more physicians, many health experts say there are more effective ways to use existing levels of doctors and nurses to care for patients.

From the

Editor

With a little bit of help from his friends

What a spectacle! Once upon last week, federalists and separationists were doing their many-moo-boo-boo act. This time, it was in front of an international crowd of policy wonks discussing federalism in Quebec. As Ottawa Editor Bruce Wallace reports, the sniping overshadowed the serious work of the conference (page 38). And the theme sounded for all the world like yet another dreary referendum campaign.

In fact, it might have been. Months ago when Ottawa was planning the conference, some of the larger minds must have speculated that Quebec could have been on the wing of yet another independence referendum than fall. How better to confront separationists than suggesting a live-in federalism in Beauchamp's backyard?

Indeed, but well-chosen powdered the separationists with the unexpected gift of global platforms for their grievances. But it was not all bad news for the feds. The conference also demonstrated to the world that Canada's many horde is one of bene merit, not boffins. And



Clinton, Chrétien, Clarkson at Ottawa's elegance

U.S. President Bill Clinton Bush spoke movingly about how civilized peoples can live together and work for a common purpose.

Clinton came closer to an outright endorsement of federalism over separation than any U.S. president. "You know, this federalism, it's not such a bad idea," he said in his folksy drawl. Clarkson borrowed from his own immigrant background, plus the insights of artists, explorers and writers, and wove an extraordinary vision of a compassionate and inclusive nation. "We must not see ourselves as people who simply react to trends," she said. "But is people who can initiate them."

The eloquence of Clinton and Clarkson was refreshing, given the sterile nature of the current debate. If only we could keep our focus on the opportunities of the future, not the grievances of the past.

Robert Lewis

Newsroom Notes

Getting the story

This week's cover stories had their origin in a tip that Senior Writer Jane O'Hara received from a contact she made back in the mid-1980s when she was based Vancouver bureau chief. Her informant suggested she check out the provenance of a piece of jewelry ostensibly created by the late, great Hilda with Bill Reid. The tip led O'Hara to

New York City, where the jewelry was about to go under the hammer at Christie's auction house (it did not sell), thus in Vancouver for two extended periods of reporting.



O'Hara (left), David Kippenberger, a tipster

newspaper more than 60 years, art experts, dealers, agents, collectors, and friends and former employees of Reid. "What surprised me was how eager people were to talk about him," she says. "It's as though they'd been waiting for someone to come along and explode the myth of Bill Reid. He was a man who made some fabulous art, but had a lot of people in his climb to the top."

The stories, which begin on page 20, were edited by Assistant Managing Editor Peter Kayfles and researched by Researcher/Rapporteur Sandra David.



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The Mail

The Grey Owl legacy

You quote from the Ontario Censors after Grey Owl's death: "His writings as a writer and naturalist will survive." ("Rediscovering Grey Owl," Cover, Oct. 4). Perhaps he will survive as a naturalist, but his writings have been unfortunately ignored by the Canadian literary establishment. A check of several anthologies of Canadian literature for excerpts from his



Grey Owl, the writing that has survived

writing turns up nothing. A fraud writing about beavers appears an embarrassment to the censors of CanLit. Literature is a study of appraisal of texts, not personalities. Grey Owl deserves better.

RH Plumbrose, North Bay, Ont.

Letters to the Editor

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I am surprised that in your cover story you failed to note another encouraging connection between Peter Brattin, who plays Grey Owl in the film, and the role of an impostor. Brattin first came to the attention of most Canadians in the television series *Stringer*, in which he played the role of a man with a dubious (though never fully explained) past who pretended to be the title character, a man who, like Grey Owl, never really existed.

MICHAEL R. HESTON, Kitchener, Ont.

"*Truth and consequences*" was nicely written. However, as a great-great granddaughter of Arctic Belaney, I noticed that a mistake was made. Arctic Belaney's first daughter, whom you refer to as Alice, is named Agnes Alison Patkau, Vassaga Beach, Ont.

Refugee care

I am an expatriate Canadian working in an African country. Even though I faithfully pay Canadian income tax (both federal and provincial) each year as I am required to do, I have to apply each year to receive a child tax credit and I am not entitled to receive free medical care when I visit Canada. For medical care, I am charged out-of-country rates, which I then submit to a private insurance company. Thus, I was surprised to read in "Canadian open door" (Cover, Aug. 23) that people who claim refugee status immediately are eligible for free medical care and social assistance. Perhaps on my next visit to Canada I should jump into the St. Lawrence River and claim refugee status. I would receive more benefits from any day off.

JILLIAN KIRKLAND, Burnaby, B.C.

Free-market wages

Ross Lover is way off base ("Who's greedy now?" Oct. 4). Good and instant salaries aside, do you not need to be an executive in this country to be discarded by the new Canadian Auto Workers agreement with Ford? Executive salaries and benefits are organized in a free market based on their individual education, skills, management abilities and their ability to attract capital and investment. And when they are discarded, they tend to be scoured and hired by other companies who are willing to pay competitive salaries for the rare skills they possess. On the other hand, who would hire an unemployed, unskilled and much lower paid brewer?

LANCE BEYER, Ottawa

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Books online

I wish to comment on McClelland & Stewart publisher Asle Beaton's plea that Canadians not buy from Amazon.com so they will receive American editions of Canadian novels ("Buyers on books," Opening Pages, Sept. 27). I agree that we, as Canadians, should support Canadian novelists and publishers, but in many cases the books Canadians want to buy are not available on Canadian Internet sites, or through our local book retailers. The Internet can be a valuable resource, and when time is crucial the easiest site to find will be the most used. Maybe this is a wake-up call for all Canadian companies in all industries: if you don't provide the goods and services that consumers want, they will turn to whoever can meet their demands, regardless of where the company operates.

GARY SPYRE, Burlington, Ont.



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Census records

As one of a handful of genealogists and historians leading the campaign on the Internet to have the federal government release post-1901 census records to the public after a reasonable period, I must express my disappointment with your cover story ("The search for roots," Sept. 20). While the article was interesting and informative, I was disappointed to see that an issue affecting millions of genealogists in Canada and around the world was brushed over with a single sentence. For readers who were in ever another census released in Canada, I would refer them to the Post 1901 Census Project Web site (www.biblio.ca/census/), where they will find an explanation of the problem.

Your cover story has touched a chord with many family historians whose curiosity about personal ancestry has become a lifelong quest. However, one point should be clarified. The Univers-

City of Toronto may be the first to offer accredited classes in the subject of genealogy; but the recognition for the first accredited program for certification as

Canada should go to the Genealogical Ken Burns, Ottawa

A U.S. monopoly?

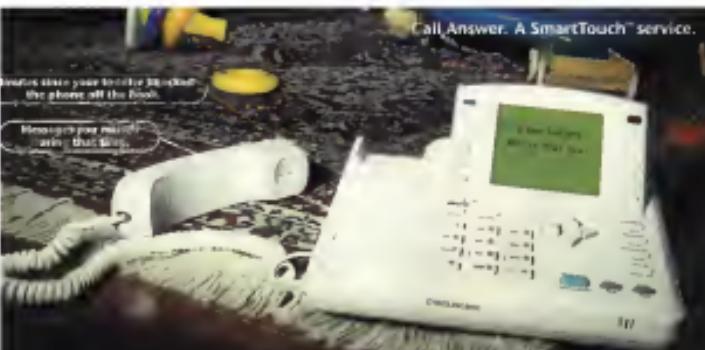
So, Jeanne Neldner has decided to pursue a master's degree in the United States as a result of being lectures at the University of Saskatchewan.

("When learning is dull," The Mail, Oct. 4). I'm a little confused here. I've heard of students moving to the States for opportunity and higher wages, but now to read that our dear neighbours have a monopoly on interesting lectures as well! I'm currently studying for a

The Mail

Footh's island

I read my *Madron* from back to front, avoiding the possibility of not getting to Allan Richardson's page. While reading his description of life in my island in the Pacific ("No steady, boss," Sept. 20), I had a feeling I had been there. It occurred to me that although he doesn't identify his island, it is the same one that is the setting for author Bill Richardson's *Brother Bear* & *Sealife* trilogy. It is a flat island, the deer on the dairy road, the old-growth forest, the characters, the pristine beauty... even a fence post. I can see the good



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Dr. Foth hanging out with the eclectic B&B guests and carrying on ribald conversations with Mrs. Beauchene, the brotherly Bible-quoting parrot.

Robert Webster, director

E-postal musings

I find it ironic that just days after reading "Canada Post delivers things really well" ("Going E-postal," Business, Sept. 13), when I go to ask why a package sent from North Saanich, Sask., to Calgary has not been received three weeks later I am told that because I didn't pay an extra dollar for a "traceable delivery" there is nothing they can do. Had I asked if I wanted a "traceable delivery," I would have been glad to pay the dollar, but I'm afraid next time I will use a courier, and not the one that is 96-per-cent owned by Canada Post. **Shane Case, Hornbeam, Sask.**

I have been a letter carrier with Canada Post for the past 24 years and read your story about e-postal with great interest. For Canada Post, it's the only

way to go, short or die. Canada Post has seen the writing on the wall. I wonder if the Canadian Union of Postal Workers has. If Canada Post's predictions are true about sole providers of online services and the decline in personal mail, only fools would think Canada Post would keep at it any longer. Of course, CLUW will have a say, but what can it do if there is no mail to pass? How can it justify all the manpower? If Canada Post does not go after online services, the private sector will just keep carving chunks out of the post office business. Unfortunately, some of my co-workers would rather not have anything to do with computers and just stick their heads in the sand and hope the big bad Internet goes away. Things are going to change very fast for Canada Post and I would either be working for Canada Post or not working at all. **John Neimer, Port Coquitlam, B.C.**

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The Mail

award-winning Air Canada is "imperial." Yes, he does sing the praises of Gary Schwartz. Unknowns are definitely not expensive and are headed by people who are definitely not copy, but obviously according to Newstein, Schwartz is different. Out of the goodness of his heart, he will save Canadian Airlines. He will relieve the burden from Ottawa. Thank, Gary, is there anything we can do to repay you? Here, take Air Canada. What a flutter pillow while you're in bed with the feds! How about a beautifully framed picture of all those fatalities who will be left jobless in this deal?

Heather Goodall, Green Valley, Ont.

Jewish superiority

In writing "Wiseckly" about anti-Semites, Barbara Aerial has Thora Hird on her side ("Jews and Suckers," Sept. 27). The subtitle of his book, *The Gift of the Jews is How a Tribe of Dunces Normally Changes the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels*, will aid. The Jews are superior for three reasons mainly. They had to struggle to survive, their religious leaders could always marry and their heroes were not regularly killed in wars. Superiority brings envy and, sometimes, dislike. It is a price for success.

Russell A. Palmer, Vancouver

Maybe Barbara Aerial could understand why the Jews have been hated with such persistence in so many cultures over so many centuries if she could consider a few original sorts of the source. How can a people who from their biblical start considered themselves as the "chosen people" avoid being singled out? And having set themselves in that marginal position of hard survival, the Jews became economic experts whose talents were soon largely exploited by greedy governments. How could they keep from being considered responsible and accountable for global catastrophes?

**Gilles de La Poutre,
St-Martin-du-Gay, Que.**



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Opening

Notes

Edited by Tanya Davies

Prominent 'persons'

They challenged the status quo in a way that reverberates to this day. Five Alberta women, each accomplished in her own field, came together in the 1930s to work their outrage over the fact that a woman could not be appointed to the Canadian Senate because the British North America Act, Canada's Constitution at the time, did not recognize women as "persons." The so-called Famous Five—Nellie McClung, Emily Murphy, Irene Parlby, Henrietta Muir Edwards and Louise McKinney—successfully appealed that interpretation to the British Privy Council, which declared that "the exclusion of women from all public offices is a relic of days more barbarous than ours."

On Oct. 18—the 70th anniversary of the landmark Persons Case ruling—a large bronze statue of the Famous Five will be unveiled at Calgary's Olympic Plaza. Exactly one year later, an identical monument will appear on Parliament Hill. To underwrite the \$1-million cost of creating and installing the statues, Toronto's Wright Foundation, the Calgary-based Famous Five Foundation, sought out five prominent Canadian women willing to donate \$300,000 each. The benefactors: Senator Vivienne Toy, a successful fashion designer and aunt-in-law of Governor General Adrienne Clarkson; Heather Reisman, president of Indigo Books & Music Inc.; Toronto-based financier Kiki Dilatario Mata Enikos, owner of a Calgary corporate psychology firm, who donated



A replica of the bronze statue honoring the Famous Five, which will be

along with her sister-in-law, author Alysha MacLellan, and former University of Calgary chancellor Anna McCaughey, who contributed along with their daughters, Roseanne and Jane.

Wright says she approached women who not only had

deep pockets, but who could articulate why they had been moved by the Famous Five. Last week, they started to do just that. "These women blazed the trail," McCaughey told *Maclean's*. Roseanne observed that it is a chance to reflect on how far women have come. "To see the youngest generation can't imagine a time when women weren't considered people," she says. "It's so incomprehensible with current realities."

Welcoming the 51st state



Presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan has come under fire for updating his new book, *A Republic, Not an Empire*, that Hitler posed no threat to the United States and Washington should have stayed out of the Second World War. Buchanan is suspicious of all foreign entanglements, and urges Americans to

watch out for their own national interests first. Still, he rails over a welcome move for any Canadian province that wants to join the Great Republic. He writes, "Vermont has been the most ferocious of states in its geography. Neither Canada nor Mexico has been a security concern in this century. That is changing. In the new century, Quebec may demand independence, and the Maritime and western provinces could separate from Ottawa. Americans

may passionately regret a breakup of Canada, but we are not a disunited party. Should it come apart, the United States should offer trade agreements to each successor state, and itself should, upon breaking, Canadian province wish it?" There is almost assurance, though, that Buchanan will make it to the White House and be in a position to extend the invitation. He is on the verge of leaving the Republican party and seeking the nomination of the U.S. Reform party—the fast track to political oblivion.

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A dime for the donation meter

Soon, shoppers in Burnaby, B.C., won't have to feel guilty or look away when a beggar asks for money—thanks to a city-coordinated decision last week to install “panhandling meters” in the Burnaby Heights business district, a suburb of Vancouver. “I gave at the meter” is the response expected; merchants hope shoppers will give to panhandlers when asked for loose change. A city council report states the money will go to food banks, homeless shelters and local charities.

The two pilot change machines—specifically patented parking meters—will be installed by the end of the year as part of a community campaign to discourage vagrancy and begging. According to the city report, until recently, there were eight “regular” panhandlers working the Burnaby strip. Until the meters are in place, local businesses are handing out cards telling the public to “stop giving



A Kamloops panhandling meter: no more bagging

money to panhandlers—and stop feeling guilty about it. Your loose change only funds their addiction.”

The idea for the automated beggars was borrowed from Kamloops, B.C., which installed six meters last year. Proceeds from the Kamloops meters have been “modest,” says a police report. But that hasn’t stopped the Burnaby city council. “We’re not saying this is something that is going to eradicate panhandling,” says John Foster, senior social planner for the city. “But, it is worth a try.”

Pop Movies

1 Double Jeopardy (1992)	\$119,000
2 Three Days (1991)	\$112,500
3 American Beauty (1999)	\$111,000
4 The Sixth Sense (1999)	\$101,000
5 Silence of the Lambs (1991)	\$80,500
6 Blue Velvet (1986)	\$80,200
7 Mystery, Alaska (1991)	\$80,000
8 Big Momma's House (2000)	\$80,000
9 The Love of the Game (1999)	\$80,000

Top movies in Canada, ranked according to box office money during the seven days that ended on Oct. 7. (In brackets: number of screen-wide showings.) Source: BoxOffice.com Inc.

Finding love in London

The Very Thought of You is a romantic comedy about three best friends who fall for the same woman. The British film stars Josephine Pugh, Rufus Sewell and Tom Hollander as lifelong friends and Monica Potter as Martha, an American who moves to London to escape her boozing life in Minneapolis.



Potter (left) and Hollander: true love

Frank (Sewell) is an out-of-work actor who finds enjoyment in constantly competing with Daniel (Hollander), a pompous music executive. Laurence (Pugh), a teacher, is tired of his old friend bickering. Meanwhile, Martha buys a one-way ticket to Britain. Alone in London, she has chance meetings with each of the friends. Daniel and Frank use an opportunity to compete for her affection—but, unbeknownst to them, Martha and Laurence have already fallen in love.

Passages

Announced: The finalists for the \$25,000 1999 Giller Prize. Board of Directors, 56, for *A Good Heart*; Timothy Findley, 68, for *Polymer*; Anne Hébert, 83, for *An I Drowning Here?*; Nancy Huston, 46, for *The Monk of the Angel*; and David MacLennan, 47, for *Somerset Green*, in Toronto. The Giller award for new Canadian fiction was founded in 1994 by businessman Jack Rabinovitch in memory of his late wife, journalist Deric Gilke, and is one of Canada’s most prestigious literary awards. The winner will be announced at an award ceremony in Toronto on Nov. 3.

Died: Co-founder of Sony Corp., and the man behind the portable Walkman. Akio Morita, 76, of pneumonia, in Tokyo.

Died: Conductor laureate of Symphony Nova Scotia, Georg Tchauder, 82, of an apparent suicide, after jumping off his second-floor balcony, in Halifax.

Divorcing: Pop superstar Michael Jackson, 41, and Debbie Rowe Jackson, 40, the mother of his two children. They married in 1996 after Michael Jackson divorced Lisa Marie Presley.

Died: Art Farmer, 73, a bop jazz master of the trumpet and flugelhorn who developed a life-threatening infection he called a “therape,” of a heart attack, in New York City.

Died: Portuguese singer Amália Rodrigues, 79, whose passionate performances of the country’s breeding fado music brought her international fame; in Lisbon.

Died: Former professional wrestler Robert (Giant Gorilla) Muller, 62, who became a TV announcer and then president of the World Wrestling Federation; of complications from a recent heart attack, at his home, in Willingboro, N.J.

Convicted: Israeli spy agent Shlomo Noach, 43, of abducting and raping Lenor Alberg, 19, the current Mrs. Weisz, in Tel Aviv.

Opening Notes

Explorer

Definitions for the digital age

"Yada, yada, yada," Comedian Jerry Seinfeld made that expression part of popular culture. Now it has been officially defined in the newly released Microsoft Encarta World English Dictionary, a joint venture between the Redmond, Wash., software colossus and the British company Bloomsbury Publishing. They say it is a noun meaning "boring, tiresome, superficial, unengaging talk."



The dictionary, available on CD-ROM or between-old-fashioned hardcovers, contains 400,000 entries and is designed to facilitate communication between people who may be conversing from different parts of the world through the Internet. Hence, a computer world like hotel is defined as "a place for an overnight stay," but it is also described as "an establish-

ment that sells alcoholic beverages," the Australian usage, and a restaurant, the meaning in South Asia. And for those who are digitally challenged, there are definitions of terms peculiar to the Information Age such as bytes and software. The CD-ROM version, which also includes a book of quotations with 16,000 entries and an almanac of world events, costs for \$54, although buyers can claim a \$30 rebate.

Virtual shopping—for a home

Unable to make that open house? Now, home buyers can take a virtual tour through the Internet, using the brainchild of Torontoans Kevin McCurdy, 26, and his partner, Howard Field, 27. They have created a Web site—www.kineticsoft.com—which prospective buyers can view 360-degree images of various rooms of a house. The virtual tour is based on two technological innovations: a tripod with a rotating head that supports a standard consumer video camera, and compression software that allows quick transfer of the large digital video file to the Web site. McCurdy and

FilM4 company, Burnham.com Inc., is based in Palo Alto, Calif., and has 500 full-time employees, including videographers who take pictures of homes in 5,000 urban centers in Canada and the United States. Real estate agents pay a \$100 fee per home and, according to McCurdy, are buying 15,000 tours per month. And their company is just scratching the surface, he says, since there are 10 million houses per year in the United States alone.



AutoPC in-dash computer reads e-mail

Conversing with a car computer

The new Clarion AutoPC is an in-dash computer designed for those who want to access their e-mail while in the car. Also containing a radio and CD player, the AutoPC can receive and send e-mail and messages. And it is a diligent user: drivers motorists can place their portable phone in a cradle that is plugged into the AutoPC, and the device will accept verbal instructions to look up a phone number in an electronic address book and automatically dial it. The computer—which sells for \$1,699—is also capable of recognizing 200 simple verbal commands, such as turning the AutoPC on and off. True telephony, too.

D'Arcy Jussel

All the right shows at the right time

Every day, the average Canadian cable television subscriber receives close to 3,000 hours of programming. The trouble is, the viewer has no control over the scheduling of the shows—a favorite four-star movie could be showing only at 1 a.m. But the vagueness of TV schedules may soon become a thing-of-the-past due to a new set-top box called the personal video recorder.

Replay Networks Inc. of Mountain View, Calif., introduced its line of PVRs to American consumers last April and the company is preparing a Canadian launch, although the date has not been determined. The device contains computer hard drives that allow a viewer to record between 10 and 28 hours of programming, and range in price from \$1,000 to \$2,200, depending on the amount of memory.

The PVR is controlled by a hand-held remote, which can be used to conduct a number of different searches. The machine can be instructed to search the electronic programming guides now available through most cable service providers, for example, around every episode of a favorite sitcom. It can also find programs thematically, as a die-hard hockey fan could instruct the device to record all the games available in a given week. Alternatively, a search for everything available on blue-ray night-profile baseball games, or nature shows. And the little black box contains one feature that many viewers will probably welcome: a quick-stop button that allows a 30-second jump, just enough time to avoid an annoying commercial and get back to the program.

Sales of the units have been slow so far, a Replay spokesman admits, but a number of computer industry analysts predict consumers will snap up 15 million PVRs over the next five years. Prices are expected to fall, and the storage capacity will likely grow to about 100 hours. And the bottom line for viewers is that it could mean television on demand.



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INTERNET Shopping Guide

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Opening Notes

Beat-Sellers

Fiction

NONFICTION/ART/WEBSITES	
1. <i>PIRATES</i> , Tony Horwitz (4)	1
2. <i>A STORM CALLED HOPE</i> , Arundhati Roy (5)	2
3. <i>PERSONAL INJURIES</i> , Sam Keen (2)	3
4. <i>MARKS IN JAZZLAND</i> , Stephen King (3)	4
5. <i>IS PUBLISHING THE PROPER BUSINESS?</i> , Christopher George (4)	5
6. <i>BLAKK</i> , Anna Quindlen (3)	6
7. <i>MARVELS</i> , Michael Crichton (2)	7
8. <i>WHITE LIES NEVER WORK</i> , Tom Robbins (2)	8
9. <i>WHAT THE BOY MEANT</i> , Stephen King (3)	9
10. <i>WHAT THE BOY MEANT</i> , Stephen King (2)	10

Nonfiction

NONFICTION	
1. <i>THE FORTRESS OUTPOST</i> (2)	1
2. <i>INHERITANCE/ABUSION</i> , Christine Andre and Bill Wiatrek (3)	2
3. <i>BEST</i> , Michael Moore (3)	3
4. <i>HEAT & FLAME</i> , Jim Corden (2)	4
5. <i>PAPER SHARERS</i> , Wayne Goss (2)	5
6. <i>WE ARE NOT ALONE</i> , Linda Hogan (3)	6
7. <i>BEATNIKS AGAINST HUMANITY</i> , Steve Johnson (2)	7
8. <i>THE WORKS</i> , David Ling (2)	8
9. <i>BLISS ROMANCE</i> , Alison Prince (2)	9

11. *Media vs. Art*
Compiled by Bruce Balmer



Lighting a candle

The romance of lighthouses is a worldwide phenomenon, one that occasionally obscures the light-and-death contribution-to-society safety. Bella Bathurst's *The Lighthouses of Sennen* (HarperCollins) is an eye-opening corrective. In the late 18th century, just as the extraordinary Stevensons—the family of Robert Louis Stevenson, author of the seafaring classics *Kidnapped* and *Treasure Island*—began their work, Scottish waters saw hundreds of shipwrecks annually. Between 1750 and 1940, eight members of the Stevenson family oversaw tremendous design and engineering difficulties to construct the 97 manned lighthouses that still dot the Scottish coastline—and still save lives every year.



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Backstage

Anthony Wilson-Smith



Don Carty comes home

If the instincts of senior Air Canada executives had been correct eight years ago, Don Carty would now be leading them into battle instead of ad-

vising their bigger enemy. In 1991, senior officials thought naming CEO Claude Taylor was so close to bringing Carty to that office. Instead, Carty, then a senior executive at Pan World, the U.S.-based American Airlines, walked away from negotiations after discussing his situation with American's chairman, Robert Crandall. Last year he became Crandall's successor as chairman and CEO of the parent AMR Corp., and now oversees an operation that has 126,000 employees. In his first year as CEO, the company made a record profit of \$1.9 billion. "Taking the Air Canada job would have meant a huge financial hit, and I realized I have this enormous attachment to American Airlines," mused Carty last week. But, he added, "it was tempting, because I've always liked the idea of coming home."

Home, in this case, means literally that on a day-off business trip to Montreal, the 53-year-old Carty stayed with his 76-year-old mother in the family house in suburban Town of Mount Royal, near his old high school. The next morning, he rolled along Sherbrooke Street West, past the apartment where he lived after taking his first airline job with Air Canada, and stopped at a restaurant for coffee and toast. *The Gazette* that day reported Premier Lucien Bouchard's insistence that any merger between *Canadian Airlines*—in which American Airlines holds a 25-per-cent stake—and Air Canada must be vetted and approved by the Quebec government. Carty pressed for a resolution, chided "You must be fragging my Quebec mom," he said. "I'd be surprised if that government doesn't demand something."

Carty is in Canada often at the moment because of American Airlines' role in blocking Once Carty's efforts to roll Air Canada and Canadian into one airline (AMR held a board meeting in Toronto two weeks ago, and while Carty was in the city, he and Qantas CEO Gerry Schwartz—whom Carty calls "a good, good friend of many years"—met frequently to talk strategy.) A new double of the actor Jeremy Irons will no longer be his love-life; laconic, measured, Carty is now a near-perfect hybrid of two extremes: he still retains some of his hard-boiled French, is a punctuate slob, and his Energy in talking hockey would win acceptance in any Canadian sports bar. But he does to with more than a trace of an American twang, and he sports a permanent Texas tan.

Used five years ago, Carty commanded on a star-worthy basis from Dallas to a small island he owns on a lake in the Ottawa Valley, whiling away the mid-hour nap by bringing file

from the office. Now, recently married with a five-year-old nephew and a four-month-old son, he makes the trip less often—but it remains a regular

meeting place for members of the Carty clan, including three grown-up children from his first marriage. Although he holds your Canadian-American citizenship, he says: "In my mind, I'm Canadian, so I'm not of time; every visit will change that."

He is also one of the most high-profile executives in the American airline industry, and in the eyes of many peers, perhaps the smartest. He has been repeatedly wooed by other American carriers and world carriers on aspects he once declined the top job at United Airlines. A graduate of Queen's University and the Harvard Business School, Carty is renowned for finding innovative technological solutions to managing problems that ability has led to offers from companies in a variety of fields that none, he says, offer the satisfaction of his present job. "I like it because it's so complex. The airline business has jumped up and broken a lot of people bad over the years, but it tests your skills like nowhere else."

One of those skills a Carty great claim. Since joining American Airlines in 1976, he worked closely for much of the past two decades with Crandall, a legend for his clear-eyed sense of direction and impetuous style. Crandall led the company through airline deregulation in the 1980s, and gave American the first customer-friendly computer-reservation system and a much-needed frequent-flier program. But he was often involved in much as responded. Now, Carty says, one of those: "We want our people to feel more float of the company."

Despite his easy manner, Carty is blunt about his business. He acknowledges that the airline industry, beset by consumer complaints over everything from uncomfortable flight durations to safety concerns to late flights, has recently faced "a public relations crisis largely of our making." Of efforts to forge a cohesive unit of the OneWorld alliance with airlines that include Canadian Airlines and British Airways, Carty says: "Overall, I'd give us a B-minus. We could do better."

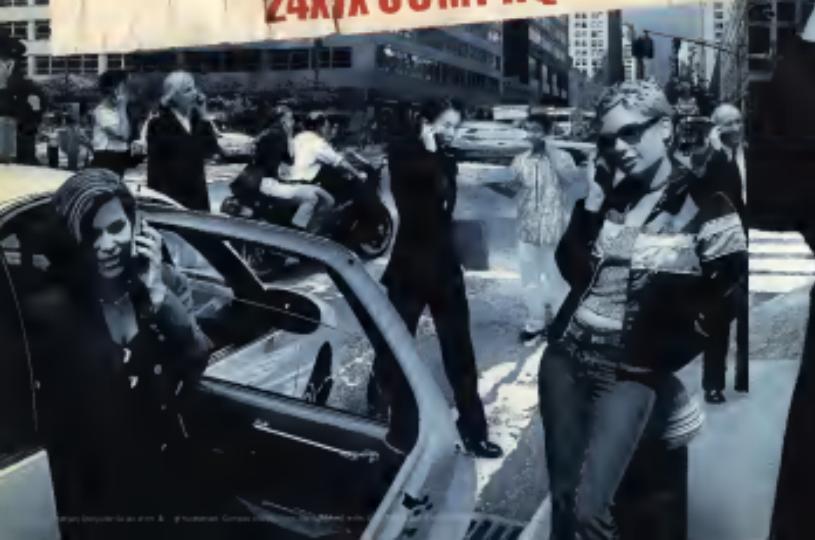
And, Carty says flatly, "the industry has to change the pricing structure" of tickets. In an experiment in the early 1990s, American Airlines dropped the price of regular tickets by about 40 per cent, but announced there would be no more seat sales or discounts for advance purchases. Other airlines didn't follow suit, and American had to change back. But, says Carty, "the system must change. Consumers don't like it, and we must learn." That's an issue he hopes to resolve, backed by American Airlines' powerful status. If he ever succeeds, he'll give consumers a gift he could never have imagined working on this side of the border.

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Haida artist Bill Reid was a national icon. But from 1980 on, suffering from the debilitating effects of disease, he relied on others to produce his work.

TRADE SECRETS

By Jane O'Hare

She sits in the kitchen of her small second-story apartment in Vancouver's Kitsilano area. While a kettle boils lightly on the stove, the woman places a series of drawings on the table. It is, she says, the few now she has shown the sketches to a stranger. They are stunningly raw; among the last works by Haida artist Bill Reid—who died last year at 78, after a 30-year battle with the debilitating effects of Parkinson's disease. Setting the drawings down, the woman, who had a long-standing affair with Reid while he was married to his third and last wife, Marlene, says she admires the playfulness and liveliness of the lines. "Yes what stands out is the graphic nature of the composition, which combine Haida iconography with another of Reid's obsessions: sex. Described by one ex-girlfriend as a "completely wonkyone"—she was almost like his hobby." Reid depicted a killer whale making love to a woman in one drawing. In another, he rendered a penis as a totem pole. "Bill was excited by the forbidden, the dark side of the light," says the woman who owns the sketches—and, in fact, posed for one that was

rendered on a decision drum. "He liked to shine in public—but he liked the shadows, too."

That side of the master goldsmith and Haida carver is well-known among some members of Canadian art world. To the public, Reid projected a benign and grandfatherly image. He was viewed as a kindly figure, an senior person and old-fashioned character with a mind at once deeply wacky and deeply scholarly. But others who knew him well are less flattering. Described variously by associates as "a charming boozie" and "a pathological egomaniac," Reid was capable of ruthlessly turning on friends—many of whom helped advance his career. And his formidable artistic success had a dark side as well.

By the late 1970s, Reid, who was part Haida, had become a cultural icon in British Columbia—a presence on the front lines of a brewing battle between Indian rights and white colonists. At the time, his reputation was, for the most part, based on beautifully executed, finely detailed gold and silver jewelry. But the height of his fame was still to come—through a series of grandiose



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY MCKEE



*With wife Marlene
in 1997; among
other details,
letters from her
receiving credit*

sculpture based on Haida mythology, and produced between 1980 and the early 1990s. Reid, who runs his business through his own company, William Reid Ltd., was never a prolific artist. Nevertheless, even in his Parkinson's disease transferred over that time, he produced an astounding body of work: five major commissions, as well as many smaller pieces in silver, wood and bronze—not to mention other items, such as prints, painted drums and paddles.

How did he do it? Though Reid was still capable of drawing, designing and supervising, almost everything was carved, painted or fabricated to a significant degree by other artists and assistants. "I guess if anyone had really thought about it, they would have known he couldn't have done this all himself," says Haida carver Jim Hart, whose elegant carvings became the signature for some of Reid's best-known work. "That's the well-kept secret in the bowse—who did what for Bill," adds Don Yorkeon, another noted Haida carver who worked for Reid.

Few outside the highly laud Vancouver art scene knew that Reid's Parkinson's disease had reached such an advanced stage that he was often incapable of working. In her definitive study of the artist, published in 1986 and revised in 1993, respected Vancouver art historian Don Shadbolt did note that because of illness, Reid was forced to rely others, and she characterized the longer commission as "joint efforts under his control." But even many of those in the know did not realize the extent of his dependence on Haida as well as white artists. In fact, those who produced his work joke that they were his "wives." But the humour hides deep melancholy: in more than 30 interviews with those who produced Reid's work, a pattern of bitter complaint emerges.

Some acknowledge that without Reid's power and connections with the media, galleries and museums, these would have been no work for other carvers. Yorkeon, for one, expresses gratitude for the opportunity to have worked with

'There's a lot of young people out there now who think the secret to success is who you can hire, as opposed to what you can do'

The Jade Canoe: a \$5-million委託件 for the Vancouver airport

Reid—and for all Reid did for the cause of Haida art. But many artists say they felt paid, were badly paid and got little credit for their labour. In the end, the situation had deteriorated to the point that Shadbolt, the widow of the famous West Coast painter Jack Shadbolt, calls Reid's last major exhibition, in 1992, an artistic "façade."

The use of other artists and assistants by no means diminishes the greatness of Reid's best-known work. These brought in to produce his pieces were usually the best in the business—even though they had to peek their egos behind the Reid signature. It will be up to the art world, though, to assess the impact of the practice on the issues of authorship and value—as well as its ongoing impact on other native artists. "How valid is it to go into the past when the same thing goes on today?" Yorkeon asks. "What I see in our craft is a bourgeoisie that has evolved from people who have tried to use Bill's method of operation as a template for their career. A lot of young people now think the secret to success is who you know, as opposed to what you can do."

Bill Reid was born in 1920. His father was an American of Scottish and German descent; his mother was a Haida from Skidegate in the Queen Charlotte Islands who had native heritage from Reid until he was a teenager. Raised mostly in Victoria where his mother worked as a seamstress, Reid was brought up to be the perfect English gentleman. He also possessed a commanding voice, which, combined with his command of the language, led him finally to a career as a broadcaster. But at 23, while working for a small Vancouver radio station, Reid took his first trip to the Queen Charlottes. There, he watched his grandfather, Charles Gashoway, carve—a glimpse into the culture of his mother's people that would open a new chapter in his life.

In 1945, Reid moved east, ending up in Toronto three years later where he studied pottery-making at what was then the Ryerson Institute of Technology while working as a CBC broadcaster. In 1952, married to his first wife and with a child, Reid returned to Vancouver. There, he started making jewelry and developing contacts among University of British Columbia anthropologists. In 1957, they asked him to help them salvage se-



ding timber piles from the Queen Charlotte Islands—a project that became controversial among native nations to this day. At his personal request goes, Reid went on to help carve a Totem Park at the university.

He had never lived in the Queen Charlotte Islands and learned almost everything about Haida culture from white texts. But he successfully managed to spin Haida history for his own purposes—even as he helped further the native cause. In the process, he received credit for reviving a dying art form—overshadowing the many carvers in the Queen Charlottes who had kept the tradition alive. And his public caricature of the Haida often rankled. In 1986, during the building of *Lotsot*, a 15-m war canoe for display at Expo '86, Vancouverites would roar. Reid told a reporter that the Indians were so unimpressed they needed to be told "what end of a hammer to use." Further, he claimed they were undisciplined and didn't work too much. The recently elected president of the Haida Nation, whose name is Gisuwatx and who carved on various Reid projects, told *Maclean's* that Reid was a hero to many in the Queen Charlottes for leading his prominent name to Haida land-shore issues and bringing Haida art to international attention. As for the art, he said, "we were basically tools, but my name was an integral part—'I'm glad to have been a part of it.' But, he added, "Bill seemed to think that by putting our people down he would elevate himself."

Reid's critical comments about the Haida also struck some people as oddly hypocritical. Sharon Hitchcock, a Haida artist from the Queen Charlottes, was mainly responsible for designing and drawing the imposing killer whale design on the bow and stern of the *Lotsot*. That is now mentioned anywhere in literature dealing with Reid's work. Neither is it noted that, according to Hitchcock, Reid himself was drunk many nights while overseeing the carving of the canoe. At 5 p.m., sharp, she says, he would put

down his tools and send her to the liquor store for a large bottle of rum—which he would then consume in the corner A-frame house where he lived at the time. "He tried to get me to stay in the A-frame," Hitchcock recalls. "But I couldn't handle him drinking."

In the end, Reid agreed Queen Charlotte carvers so much that none would work for him on his final masterpiece, *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* (also known as *The Black Canoe*). The five-ton bronze sculpture, overflowing with mythological creatures, was based on a small black totem pole ("spirit canoe") Reid sculpted at the Vancouver Museum, and was unveiled in 1991 at the Canadian Embassy in Washington. In 1993, the Vancouver airport paid \$5 million for a copy, *The Jade Canoe*—the largest price ever for a Canadian work of art. Ironically, Reid's main contribution to the Spirit project was as designer and supervisor. The final carving was done mostly by white artists.

In 1980, Haida artist Jim Hart was 27 and unfamiliar with any ways when he first arrived in Vancouver from the Queen Charlottes. When his plane touched down at Vancouver airport, it seemed there were more people in the baggage claim area than in his entire home town of Masset. After his powerful carver with a long black ponytail, Hart soon got word that Reid wanted him to work for him. Reid did know that his first job would involve carving the finishing details—known as "surfacing" or "polishing" the skin on the bird," as one artist describes it. At \$15 an hour, Reid wanted him to suffice his masterful creation, the 2.6-m-high yellow cedar *Raven and the First Men*. Little did anyone else know that for the next four years, Hart's diligent and meticulous carving would give life to some of Reid's best-known work. George Rasmussen, the white Vancouver sculptor whose energy and artistic intelligence helped Reid realize the last 15 projects of his career, refers to it as the "soul on the surface"—just as was a mississ at that. And, he adds, "Bill often talked about that soul. He didn't have the skills to do that at that point. He never



The Reid in 1989, using the best artist in the business



Reid's raven art: Bill was assisted by forbidden—the dark side of light

did, actually—he wasn't a surfer like Jim, he was an intellectual anthropologist, not a craft-based artist."

Based on an original eight-centimetre wooden carving done by Reid in 1970, *The Raven and the First Men* is a tourist favourite that is the cornerstone at the University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology. When it was finished, it elevated Reid's reputation from a brilliant Haida goldsmith to master sculptor and brought him a far broader audience. But with his Parkinian's grime more severe, Reid needed help. "Bill was great at using copper," says Rasmussen. "He didn't hate you because of your chisel, he hated you for your soul, your whole energy. He expected us to dig him out of the fire. Some artists use clay—Bill used people."

To get Raven off the ground, Reid desperately needed his old friend and well-known Vancouver sculptor George Norris to sign on. At first, Norris was very reluctant to get involved with a Haida project. But Reid begged him. "Bill was the most charming man imaginable when he wanted to be," says one art historian. "He had men and women dancing around him." Added the now-native Norris, in a recent interview: "He had a way of drawing people into his web."

Using European techniques and spatial geometry, Norris scaled Raven up to its massive size and roughed it out for finishing. When Reid needed someone to carve the smaller male figure that seems to be hatching from the chestnut in the sculpture, he turned to Rasmussen. Haida carver Guajipau and Reg Davidson were brought in to work as well, but Guajipau quit because of the involvement of white men. In the case of Raven, the contributions of others are openly acknowledged.

on a sign in the Museum of Anthropology that Norris says that for extended periods of time, even Norris, Reid never showed up at the two-year-long project: "I left him a note once, and never got an answer."

Rasmussen recalls that in the later stages, Reid would go by with Reid alone. "Bill used to say those projects were an amateur job," he recalls. "Yeah—because we were doing them." At times, Reid would arrive in a grey Rolls-Royce owned by a friend, take out his number coyote to mark changes, or use a flick knife to show how he wanted a figure carved. At maximum, Reid might put in three hours of a time, especially when camera-crews documenting the process were around or the piece was nearing completion. "There were a lot of times Bill wasn't working," says Rasmussen. "He was still calling the shots, but he wasn't asking the cuts."

When Hart began the critical and laborious work of surfacing the sculpture, Reid gave him this advice: "Just finish it, get her done." That was the last he heard from Reid for a month. In all, Hart worked six months and was paid \$10 an hour to finish the sculpture. But it wasn't much with Reid again



Rasmussen: "He based you for your soul, your whole energy."

their friendship, which dated back to the 1950s, was effectively over. Today, he will only hint at what happened, saying, "I never being thought of as one of Bill's hand hands. The last thing I want to be remembered for is being somebody else's slave." But many in the art community knew of Norris's impatience on the project—and how Reid wounded him for his trouble. "George Narrated the work, and when it was finished Bill went out and actively tried to destroy his reputation, saying he was incompetent and had to work with us," says Jeffrey Miller, the talented goldsmith who produced some of Reid's jewelry pieces. "Bill did it so *Raven* would be thought of as his piece entirely. Bill couldn't have had the spotlight if people had known how responsible George was for that sculpture."

Not just the spotlight. In the world of Bill Reid Ltd., the financial stakes were very high. In 1982, Vancouver's Equinox Gallery sold a gold version of the intricately patterned *Dugout Transformation Paddle*, originally rendered in bonewood, to a local collector for \$100,000. Paddles like Reid's were definitely happy with the high price, but although Reid had started the bonewood version, he made mistakes due to his illness and had to hand the work over to Hart, who says he salvaged it. Rasmussen recalls seeing the original in an army form, then the finished version, and being "amazed at how it was done—a work of art." Bill did it all—*"I still don't believe it."* It looked like something Jim would have done. Some of the detail was too fine... Jim had the skills to do that."

Miller counters. He says: "Most of the things Bill did in this case were a mess." Miller saw the bonewood carving at the beginning stages, roughed out with crude shapes. "Then, Bill went to the Chilkatans where Jim Hart was and he came back with a masterpiece," says Miller. "It was Bill's vision and he directed the carving, but he couldn't do it with his own hands." Weeks later, Reid asked Miller to help him make a

copy in gold. But Miller's participation has never been noted. Other spinoffs of the piece, meanwhile, were made under Reid's supervision; one was advertised for sale by Vancouver's Buschman Mewatt Gallery in 1994 for \$200,000.

Andy Sylvester, co-owner of the Equinox Gallery, says he "never had any reason to doubt that the *Transformation paddle* was uplifting rather than bad." He told MacLeod he was "shocked" over the involvement of others, adding, "This is a artistism." Miller, meanwhile, recalls how the highly educated Reid tended to keep working on the piece even though his tremulous hands were incapable of engraving. "It was the worst thing that could have happened to someone so dedicated to fine detail work," he says. "But he had tremendous dignity. When he had messed something up because he had lost control, he would leave me a note saying, 'Sorry about this act-up. I kind of fell apart last night.' He could have produced five of those pieces in the time it took us to produce one. It was extraordinary."

Martine Reid acknowledges that, by the 1980s, her husband "was probably not very capable of carving hard metals." He could, she said in an interview, carve wanigan which moulds were made for casting pieces of jewelry—and do repoussé work, shaping or embossing metal by hammering on the back. In the case of the bone wood *Dugout Transformation Paddle*, which the new owner, she means the work is Reid's, Jim Hart never touched that—he may be thinking of something else. And even when others did the work, she says, the pieces are Reid's because "the design are Bill's. No piece has been allowed on the market without Bill's standard of craftsmanship being accepted by him." Vancouver goldsmith Chang Sun, who acknowledges that he did many pieces for Reid, also says that, ultimately, the authorship of those works remains Reid's. "I'm just the hands," says Sun, who often engraved Reid's signature, from a stencil, onto the

The people who produced his work joke that they were his 'slaves'

A spokesman for the Haida cause

In the winter of 1985, an ailing Bill Reid was helicopterized onto the Queen Charlotte Islands to plan a Haida blockade of a logging road. Reid only stayed a day on Lyell Island, but his commitment to the Haida and their land-clause battle was fierce. He spoke passionately and wrote poetically about preserving Haida territory. He even mentioned off his artwork in support of the fight. "The real value of Bill Reid was in raising our international profile," says Guajipau, spokesman of the Haida Nation. "He gave us a lot of support."

After the protest, Norris never worked with Reid again

The laws of Canada were also devastating. Haida were rounded up from their villages and forced to move to either Sheslay or Masset—which remain the two main centres. They along with other Indian bands were also prohibited from speaking their language and practising native customs. Children were taken from their families and sent to residential schools. Haida carver Robert Davidson says the Haida still feel the effects of these disastrous policies. But he also notes a return to traditional customs—a sign that the Haida resistance Bill Reid helped fuel is continuing.

J.O.

pieces he worked on. Everything was, San adds, "Reid design. I don't think it's mine."

All that may be new to collectors who think that, for a substantial investment, they are buying along with an artist's signature, some hands-on involvement. "Buyer beware," says Toronto art dealer Olga Korpel. She says she accepts the notion that "the concept and the idea and the vision is authorship—I do not think it's necessary for the artist to be the craftsman." But Korpel adds that there are "gray areas—if a piece was made totally by a studio assistant and I found out, I might not want to buy that piece, no matter how much the artist supervised." Being led to believe that an artist personally created a piece when in fact it was carved by someone else is a gray area. In that case, artful Korpel, the master could end up in court—"if you were led to believe it was a Bill Reid by Bill Reid himself."

Hart also says he salvaged another valuable Reid woodcarving, a 10-centimetre-tall whale. Again, Reid stated the original. But his increasing hand issues, according to Hart, made it impossible. Hart adds: "I could see the bat of what he was heading for, but it was pretty rough. There was enough wood left to do stuff with—it just took a toll over and over for him." (Reid's physical deterioration continued at the vane in the base of the statue.) It was the prototype for the 5.4-metre bronze killer whale sculpture, actually made by Barnwell and installed at the Vancouver Aquarium in 1984. Neither Barnwell nor Hart's name appears anywhere on the sculpture—a small plaque features only Reid's name. And to this day, the Vancouver Aquarium Web site credits Reid with having "sculpted" the whale.

In the early days, Hart was happy for the work from Reid and still praises him for championing the Haida people and their art. Still, he soon grew tired of being "kept in the back-room" and "treated like a pawn." He left Reid in a huff for Hart to leave. At one point, Reid bought Hart a Toyota Land Cruiser and had him work off the cost. Reid offered a similar deal to Clayton Gladstone, another Haida carver, in the late 1980s; some believe it was Reid's way of keeping his Haida workers dependent once they reached the cap.

Others say they were either underpaid or not paid at all. Rick Adkins, a Haida artist who lived in a run-down hotel on



Reid would create the illusion of control when people came to watch him work

Robert Davidson, credits Reid with expanding the appreciation of Haida art

Vancouver's downtown Esplanade, claims he was flattered when Reid gave him a silver bear box to engrave around 1985. Reid had tried engraving it himself but, according to Adkins, "It was a mess. He didn't really destroy it, but it was a lot of work to clean it up." Still, that was easy labour compared with trying to collect from Reid. "I accepted an outrageously low amount of money for the piece," says Adkins (the box eventually won the Sudsy Beydman Award, under Reid's name, for excellence in the crafts and was exhibited at the Museum of Civilization in Hull, Que.). "But I was too embarrassed to haggle and I was scared. He was already pretty old and decrepit and I didn't want to go down in history as the guy who killed Bill Reid. But he hated handing out money."

B.C. native artist Ben Housie had similar problems. In 1985, Reid asked him to paint 36 paddles for him at \$20 an hour. After that, Reid asked Housie, a member of the Kwakwaka'wakw band, to paint 25 devotional drums based on Reid designs. In the early 1990s, the Reid drums, also produced by two other artists, were a hit—selling item for which collectors were willing to pay between \$40,000 and \$50,000 apiece. Housie started painting the drums for \$500 each. It was a hideously tedious process that meant taking Reid's rough designs, reworking them and then doing the actual painting. But Housie was fast and good; he could turn out a drum in about five hours. When Housie learned that one of Reid's first drums sold for \$20,000, he asked Reid for a \$250 raise. "He said 'no,'" says Housie, who now lives in a quiet community in the Vancouver suburb of Sunny Hill and supports himself and his teenage son by selling prints and doing odd painting jobs. Two weeks later, Reid rebuked Housie—with his name—after he could find no one else.

How did Reid manage to perpetuate the image that he was the sole creator of his works? People in the art world say that once an becomes an industry and the art dealers and market forces come into play, myth-building begins and the narrative takes over. Throughout history, artists have run huge studios with many assistants. Rodin and Picasso, for example, had people working for them. Art historians are now trying to untangle exactly who did what: real authorship will ultimately determine the value of many works.

Although the practice was far less common in North America, American sculptor White Saunders in 1993 shed some light on the issue in *American Magazine*. He and the practice of taking assistants, particularly in an arena like New York

City, has been increasing. But pressure to keep it quiet comes from gallery owners and art dealers who are afraid prices may fall. In 1982, when Saunders put a show of his work in New York, he made a prominent sign listing his assistants' names and what jobs they performed. "He'd been told he had to remove the sign—or reduce it to a mere line of names."

Hart and others remember how Reid would create the illusion of control when people came to watch him work. "He'd show off for them," Hart says. "He'd grab a tool and start prancing around, pile right in there and destroy an art. Then we'd clean it up. He was so strong in carry on under all that pressure, he had to end up giving the boy he could, cutting his fingers or making some kind of mess of himself and also making a mess of some sort of the work. But that was the game. It was showmanship, showing people he was the master, that it was his work and his project."

During the making of *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*, it was a working joke with westerners on the project: if Reid came to the studio, he'd be followed closely by his entourage, a constant stream of collectors, dignitaries, museum directors and gallery owners. (One day, architect Arthur Erickson—who designed the Canadian Embassy in Washington—and his old friend Reid end up for the commission for the sculpture—brought American actress Shirley MacLaine to the studio to see it being made.) Usually Reid would start giving orders to the workers in front of the guests, proclaiming in his deep, resonant voice, "My, they just don't get it. They just can't do it." Then he would walk away. "We had to put up with this stuff," says Barnwell, "and I found it heartbreaking."

In 1985, Reid hired Vancouver impresario Chas Wootton as a project supervisor. One of Wootton's jobs was to find money to fund Reid's work. First, he secured \$350,000 from the now-defunct Bank of British Columbia for Reid to produce *Lester*. With some of that money, Wootton made a film documenting the process. Wootton finally acknowledges that Barnwell was the only reason Reid was able to get his major commissions done. "He couldn't do it himself—he wasn't capable," says Wootton. "But the

public didn't know it was out of like FDR [former U.S. president Franklin Delano Roosevelt]. People didn't know he had polio. Bill didn't want people to know how ill he was. Part of it was pride and part was marketing, but more pride than anything else. It wasn't a conspiracy, but there was recognition that letting people know wasn't such a good idea."

Wootton says Reid would make a superhuman effort to appear healthy for public appearances—or the filming of a movie. But that meant his handles and moustache—a constantly changing prop—often spent as much time taking care of his physical needs as they did managing projects or producing art. Until Reid got full-time nursing in 1990, there was no one to make sure he took his medicine at every three hours (he medicated itself to relieve pain, mood swings and depression). "It was chaos," says Barnwell, who would go to pick Reid up in the morning and often find the sit-in-the-sofa, face-in-the-sink sitting on the hardwood living-room floor. And the struggle took its toll. "He would perform publicly in ways you didn't know he was capable," says Wootton. "I saw that so many times. You would have to force him to the point of getting his energy up—then he would pay for it for days afterward."

Despite Reid's immense success, there was an ever-growing need for money to support an increasingly lavish lifestyle. Barnwell says that up until the mid-1970s, Reid endures the life of a struggling artist, moving constantly, often living with fellow artists who would receive Reid jewelry instead of rent. More than one friend has remarked that Reid was "terrible with money." He never seemed to have cash or a credit card and when he were for lunch with others, when Gruska once took him on a shopping trip to buy pants and shirts, he himself had to pay for the clothing out of his own pocket. After his 1981 marriage to Marion, Reid's lifestyle changed. As he once told caroler James Watt: "It'll wash for a cent, I'll be living out of a suitcase." Watt's fame came because the Reid-owned ranch had big-and-bad condemnations on Vancouver's prestigious ocean drive, Point Grey Road, and had a summer home on Thetis Island, just east of Vancouver Island. They took trips to Europe each year, owning an apartment in Paris that was sometimes rented out to friends. Reid constantly paid associates and friends he was in trouble with "the most in gay sex"; Revenue Canada. In 1992—before receiving \$3 million from the sale of *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*—he moved himself and his business into two wooden townhouses he owned on the Musqueam Reserve in Vancouver. There, as a move, he didn't have to pay income tax. To this day, his company, now solely owned by his widow, enjoys tax-free status.

Turnover was the key to keeping the funds

The high price of Bill Reid's art

Throughout Bill Reid's career, the value of his art soared. Some of the more lucrative works and reported prices:

1. **The Jade Canoe**, a version of *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*, now in the Vancouver International Airport, \$3 million.
2. **The Spirit of Haida Gwaii**, the original bronze version at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, \$1.5 million.
3. **Dogfish Transformation Pendant**, a gold necklace based on a woodcarving, now in private hands, \$100,000.



*Dogfish Dogfish
Transformation Pendant:
Killer Whale (rare)
for Many Haida, Reid
remains a hero*

Art historian Shasholi:
The time of Bill Reid's
original pieces was past

rolling in—there was, at any given time, a lot of work in progress. Also among Wooster's responsibilities was tracking pieces Reid had jettisoned out. On July 29, 1986, according to documents obtained by MacLeans, Wooster wrote Grice Studio Ltd.—which produced small works for Reid in the 1970s and '80s—to inquire about the following items that were being made: a silver bear bowl, spoon, gold and silver 10-cm whale, bear door knocker and an ivory box. Regarding the production of a gold and silver necklace, Wooster wrote: "Bill needs to find someone to do it." Grice Studio Ltd. also made rings, pendants and brooches for Reid. A frog necklace it made for \$10,800 in 1988 was advertised for six years later for \$180,000. (The studio's relationship with Reid ended when owner Grice Mooley questioned the authorship of one of his designs.)

As well as running the shop, Wooster secured a \$100,000 federal training grant so Reid could bring four Haida carvers to Vancouver from the Queen Charlotte Islands for "skills enhancement training." But Reid was too ill to supervise them and Rasmussen took over. "Bill was sick more than half the time," says Garner Bloody, one of the four who sold everything he owned in Skidegate to come to Vancouver to study with Reid. "He either didn't show up or when he did he would just go and sit in his office and stumble out into a walkie." At one point, Reid came to check their work as two return polos and noted that the nose on one of the figures was too large. He accidentally chopped it off. "That was what it was like with that disease," recalls Bloody. "He'd bounce around and yell all over the place. And you'd have to clean it up."

Reid's quest to put himself and his art on the map has left some bitterness in its wake

taken from it provided the bronze staff for the main figure at *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*. That wooden staff was eventually sold in 1992 at Reid's last show held at the Beachcomber Mowat Gallery. Then, gallery owner described it as "an interpretation by Bill" of an old Haida staff.

Years ago Reid never touched it and that he carved it with the help of a white Vancouver island artist. For Yocom, the issue shows how little the buying public knows about Haida art. "Any anyone who would buy that staff and not know I did it, doesn't know much about this art," he says.



"I have no sympathy for them. You're asking to be taken for a ride, whether by Bill or by anybody." As that last show, which featured \$681,000 worth of items, other questions about quality and authenticating surfaced. Reid was well-known for, as he himself described it, "the well-made object": unique, hand-crafted works of jewelry that earned him comparison with world-renowned goldsmiths like Fabergé and Celiuk. But even in an untrained eye, many of the pieces in the 1992 show could not compare with Reid's earlier works. For *Orca Shadow*, the show's main dissertation, in the past, Shasholi had invented much of her critical reputation in Reid. In 1967 and 1974, she curated shows of his masterpieces at the Vancouver Art Gallery. In 1986, when Shasholi wrote back to Reid, she almost single-handedly elevated his work from anthropological cash to fine art. She believed the best show was put on simply for the money. "The time of Bill's original pieces was past and there were too many reproductions of one thing and another," she said during a recent interview. "Or easier pieces being represented as more major than they were. It was terrible." Bill Mooley, owner of the gallery, says Shasholi's comments are "parisi at the most extreme level." In the art world, he adds, critics: "say everything. Bill had appetites," says Mooley, "but if he is the designer and even if he puts his finger on the piece of work, it's his work. He has the right to put his name on it."

Rasmussen, a thin, modest sculptor with an angular face that appears carved from rock, was Reid's most loyal lieutenant. When Reid needed help, Rasmussen was there. In 1983, he carved a small, oggi version of *The Raven and the Fox* for Reid, which sold for a reported \$250,000 to a Vancouver collector. When Reid couldn't chisel his own name into it, Rasmussen did it for him. Two years later, he did the finishing work on Reid's dramatic-looking wooden frog, *Frogfish*, which went to the Vancouver Art Gallery in a \$50,000 sale. Rasmussen often had to pretend he was a mere technician when working on Reid's projects: "I made it easy for him—I called myself a forester."

In 1985, Reid once again turned to Rasmussen when he got the commission to produce a sculpture for the Canadian Embassy. That year, they began sculpting out a small half-life city model for *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*. "He had this little baby idea and would sleep at things," remembers Rasmussen. "Then he'd shuffle away and come back, add a bit of mud and walk away." Rasmussen says Reid had some good ideas for the creatures in the house, but adds, "the rest of the piece is just like spaghetti." Reid couldn't seem to focus on the project he wanted; tell Rasmussen who was wanted, and never even provided a working sketch. "It wasn't just the Parkinsons," Rasmussen says, "because he had lots of energy for other things, politics and dinner and the ladies. I felt like he was playing a game."

From the clay model, they developed a plaster working model. Non-native carver Doug Zilka was brought in to begin surfacing it and giving elegant definition to the shapes. "I was starting to be happy with it," recalls Zilka. "It was finally coming around," but soon enough he came into work and found the model in a distorted position on the studio floor. Word spread quickly through the artistic community. Maritime had caught Reid with the ladies in a meeting of women. Infuriated, she destroyed the model with a hammer. "Martine lost it," says one worker who was involved with the project. "But she had the right. It was a work."

When *Haida Gwaii* was awaiting completion, Reid made his first visit to the Canadian Embassy to see where the piece would sit. Only then did he realize that because of the room's location, the sculpture would have to face the wrong way—with its good side partially obscured. Reid asked Rasmussen if he could invent the sculpture, but it was impossible: the piece was on its way to going over \$1 million over the \$250,000 budget that Nobuo Shindo, which sponsored it, was originally willing to pay in terms of location. *The Jade Canoe* copy fund little brother. Reid originally wanted it in front of the Vancouver Art Gallery. It now sits in the food court in the international departure area of Vancouver International Airport, where signs read: "Please Do Not Climb on the Artwork" are intended to keep children from climbing it like monkey bars.

Rasmussen's name appears nowhere on the embassy sculpture's dedication plaque. He was not even invited to the official unveiling—for the last six months of the project, he and Reid would speak. Rasmussen says if he had to do it over, he would never have worked on the project. "At the end, Bill got really mad at me," Rasmussen says. "I was like an electric grinder that wouldn't turn on for him anymore. He couldn't understand that." When Reid spoke in 1996 at the airport unveiling of *The Jade Canoe*, Reid never mentioned his name, instead saying: "There are too many people for me to thank."

In fact, a whole nation. Reid and the Haida, interpreting their tradition in his art and employing native craftsman, Burke Haida, for whom Reid mentors for the most part a hero, used him as an eloquent and well-connected spokesman for native rights. Still, Reid's quest to put himself and his art on the map has left some bitterness in its wake.

Robert Davidson, 52, now considered the dean of Haida

carvers, worked for many years in Reid's shadow. But many in the art world, including Rasmussen, believe he was always left for the inferior designer. He just couldn't compete with Reid's persuasive speaking style or with his powerful connections to white narrations—the anthropologists, museums, media and galleries. In the early 1980s, Davidson lost the commission for the Vancouver Aquarium's killer whale sculpture to Reid after the latter put in a last-minute bid increase. As one Haida put it: "The white guys always get to pack their Indian."

Davidson is quick to credit Reid with expanding the appreciation for Haida art and helping create a thriving mar-



Here: "Igot on the back room and treated as a pair of hands"

ket. He also says Reid raised the standards of craftsmanship. But Davidson is equally quick to point out that Reid, in climbing to the top, played fast and loose with some truths, perpetuating the view, popularized by anthropologists, that Haida art was on the verge of extinction. In the mid-1980s, Reid claimed to great public approval that he was going to renew the lost art of Haida canoe building, maintaining that he'd been one book for 100 years. In fact, Davidson says his grandfather and great uncle built one in 1937.

Afar that time, according to Davidson, the Haida began building wooden seine boats—not because the art of canoe building was disappearing, but because the different style was better for fishing. Further, Davidson notes the names of about 20 skilled carvers who predated Reid and kept Haida art alive despite white laws prohibiting natives from celebrating their culture. "When I was 13 or 14, I had already been labelled the last of the carvers," Robertson says. "But I was just getting started." This was in the 1950s, when the older Reid was getting stoned to death. He would soon come into his own, flamboyant, eloquent and outspoken. He would become a larger-than-life icon who cast a huge shadow, one that ultimately obscured his fellow artists—as well as some interesting truths. ■

KEEPER OF THE FLAME

Martine Reid arrives for an interview dressed in a silk jacket, tweed-trim pants and knee-high black leather boots—but driving a battered blue Renault. Prominently displayed on the car's headlight is the free-parking pass given to her late husband in 1988 when he was honoured as Freeman of the City of Vancouver. But Bill Reid's widow has more than just free parking privileges in the city. As the president of William Reid Ltd., the company he set up in 1982, a year after they married, she is now solely responsible for the sale of his work. As well, she and a group of local business people are now looking for private and public funding to establish a Bill Reid museum to keep the artist's legacy alive. "I love the idea of a museum dedicated to one artist," says the petite Reid. "There's a magic to that."

And so controversy. Some white wigs in Vancouver say the last thing the art world needs is another publicly funded shrine to Haida art. Even some Haida artsmen wonder whether a Reid museum is necessary. "People are still trying to best Bill to death, still trying to earn cash," says one Queen Charlotte Island carver. And can Martine Reid raise enough money for a museum? Most of her late husband's best work is in the hands of private collectors or in a broad museum collection.

Although it is just in the talking stages right now, one plan would see the Reid museum as "middle" of the University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology. Hadi Phillips, director of the museum, says that a collaboration is possible. But one option is the museum acquiring Martine Reid's collection. Still, said Phillips, "they may find that another partnership serves them better."

In 1975, when Martine and Bill Reid first met, he was almost wheelchair-bound, osteoarthritis and dementia diagnosed with Pickford's disease. She was an anthropologist studying an exchange program from France. Reid was represented by the eloquent European. Friends often marveled at the strength of their marriage. "She was the best thing that ever happened to Bill," says one. But June Wier, who worked with Reid on *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*, says Reid was openly contemptuous of his wife. "He was saying horrid things about her within five days of meeting me," he recalls. "Bill said it was a marriage of convenience."

In 1990, Reid's close friend and business partner died. But when he consulted a lawyer, he was told he would have to split everything with Martine—including his previous works of art. "They were his inspiration and his validation,"



With former foreign minister André Ouellet and Ambassador Raymond Chretien in Washington, in 1996

says the friend. Martine Reid, meanwhile, told Maclean's was in love with her spouse mind and "never really saw him as a husband." Throughout their marriage, she says, she tried to create an environment for him to work in "without being too busy or dragon-like." It wasn't easy—Reid's longtime friends, she says, were suspicious of her. "I felt that I was a threat to them," she says. "They thought they owned part of him and that I was interfering."

As Reid's Parkinson's disease grew more severe, his wife became a more integral part of his increasingly messy business. In the 1990s, Reid was involved in three lawsuits. In one, he and a friend over a business paper that went sour (he was exonerated). In 1993, a former employee, Sharron Blaha, filed suit against the Reids, alleging she had been cut out of her commission after arranging the \$3-million sale of *The Jade Casket* (that sale was settled three years later; Blaha says she received just over \$100,000). And in 1997, the Reids filed suit against their agent, Beachcomer Mowers Gallery, but it was settled out of court.

Martine Reid job now is keeping her husband's legacy alive. But in May, she put five lots of vintage jewelry—bracelets, pendants and earrings—up for auction at Christie's in New York City. None sold, and in fact there was only a sprinkling of bids—the Reid part of the auction was over in two minutes and 20 seconds. "Christie's set the price too high," says Martine. "It was a gamble." The question now is whether the Bill Reid myth will sustain her other plans.

J.O.



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Beyond Burnt Church

By John DeMont

The lobster war escalates into a national debate over native traditions and special rights

The longer the talks dragged on in a Halifax hotel last week, the more the pressure weighed on Wilf Dods, chief of the Mi'kmaq First Nation in New Brunswick. The message from his angry band members back home was unequivocal: even if a deal had to peace in the escalating East Coast lobster dispute, they had no intention of putting their traps from Minas to Bay. But the lobbying war intense inside the stuffy meeting room where the region's Mi'kmaq chiefs gathered with federal Fisheries Minister Herb Dhaliwal. By mid-afternoon, 35 of them had backed the minister's call for a self-imposed 30-day moratorium on lobster fishing. Bar 10 chiefs continued to insist on the compromise.

In halibut and the hotel back alleys across leaders and federal officials huddled with Burnt Church council members, trying to strike a deal that Dods and the nine other holdout chiefs could support. Through all the arm-twisting, Dods stood firm. At one point, he assured to leave the meeting, saying his position was not going to change. But he decided to stay at the table. And when Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy and colleague Pauline Thomas of the Mi'kmaq Women's Society called for a vote before the violence worsened, he reluctantly agreed to ask his people to stop fishing. "It will," he told the chiefs, "be a hard sell."

If not downright impossible. By week end, the agreement seemed on the verge of collapse and Dhaliwal was considering a no-man's land on the entire lobster Narrows in Burnt Church, where the fishing dispute has resulted in threats, violence and destruction of both native and non-native property, were no one made for compromise. They stopped fishing long enough to tell Dods that, regardless of what the grand chief had agreed to, they would continue to stay out on the water. Fishermen from other East Coast bands also threatened to defy the moratorium to dislodge non-natives angry that such a deal might keep them from setting their traps when the winter lobster season is scheduled to open this week. However, high winds and bad weather on Saturday, the rain-soaked first

day kept all but a handful of fishers ashore.

Meanwhile, critics lashed out at Ottawa, arguing the federal government had been weakly surprised by the Sept. 17 Supreme Court of Canada ruling that East Coast natives had year-round fishing rights. The impact of that decision also spread to British Columbia, where some bands had the same rights, as well, to their salmon-fishing waters. At the same time, federal officials contemplated an encircling array of potential further fire-ups in aboriginal affairs. The consensus demonstrated a growing critical reaction, largely led by the Reform party, to alleged special rights being won or claimed by native groups. Soon after this month's return of Parliament, the Chrétien government is expected to take a tilt at the controversial land-claim deal with British Columbia's Nisga'a Nation. Critics warn the agreement is too costly—about \$190 million over 15 years to an aboriginal group numbering about 5,000. In Alberta, the Treaty 8 auto-group has launched a legal challenge to the Federal Court of Canada claiming they are entitled to paying rates even when they live off reserve (the Canadian Taxpayers Federation is seeking intervenor status in the case, arguing that "all Canadians should be treated equally under the law"). And the Kahnawake Mohawk Nation, 30 km south of Montreal, has announced plans to license an Internet gambling operation on its reserve, despite that raises questions about the application of gaming and tax laws on reserves.

For now, though, the lobster war is the centre of attention. Both natives and non-natives have suffered in the dispute. Last week, two macho men by white fishermen were crushed on a dock in Burnt Church, another who set a native cottage on fire by a non-native family abode. And for the Mi'kmaq, each day seems to have brought a new outrage. At week's end, the RCMP had still not made any arrests after a flotilla of angry white fishermen took to the water on Oct. 3 in Minas Big to cut the lines of an estimated 3,500 lobster pots placed by aborigines. On the same day, about 150 non-natives stormed three local processing plants suspected of buying lobsters from aborigines. In addition, a sacred native ceremonial arbour was burned to the ground in Burnt Church—where



three Mi'kmaq men ended up in hospital after their truck was injured by a vehicle driven by non-natives. Across the Bay of Fundy, in Yarmouth, N.S., a lobster boat owned by a non-native native was sunk.

Non-native lobster fishermen argue that their real concern is conservation—and that the Supreme Court decision would ruin their industry by giving year-round access to hundreds of new fishermen. "No one should be fishing out of season," assured Don Cunningham, president of the West Nova Fishermen's Coalition, which represents about 250 fishermen in the Yarmouth area. "There may be some resources can be fished all year and stand it." Mi'kmaq leaders say that about 2,000 native fishermen may ultimately want to exercise their newfound rights. But as of last week, they estimated that the entire native lobster fishing fleet consisted of just 217 boats.

Natives have their own explanation for all the bitterness being directed their way. They say the fraud is partly about greed. Non-native fishermen want to break competition in an industry where it is possible to net \$100,000 a year for just a few months' work. That naturally evokes bitterness in Mi'kmaq communities overwhelmed by high unemployment rates. But non-natives suspect that the native dispute has little to do with fishing. "It is hard to believe that is not about racism," Lawrence Paul, chairman of the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs, said last week.

Natives are not used to having the upper hand in Atlantic Canada. European settlers in Newfoundland wiped out the Beothuk Indians. In the mid-1700s, Edward Cornwallis, Halifax's English founder, put a price on Mi'kmaq scalps—setting the stage for a confrontation some 250 years later, when native leaders objected to a plan by Halifax Mayor Walter Fragerold to honour Cornwallis during celebrations marking the anniversary of the city's birth earlier this year. Complaints about inequality still abound, with natives saying that the 1987 commission of inquiry that followed Donald Marshall Jr.'s 11 years in prison for a murder he didn't commit has resulted in few substantive changes in the Nova Scotia justice system.

Racism remains the best on display during the lobster dispute. A native religious building burned to the ground. White fishermen have spewed native venom at public meetings. A non-native, dressed in a long, dark-bearded wig, performed a mock "war dance" on the deck of a fishing boat while TV cameras rolled. "History is not going to look kindly on how natives were treated in this episode," says Sidney Poobahashuk, a retired political science professor from the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. Even with the backing of the highest court in the land, it seems East Coast natives must always fight an uphill battle.

With John Gutfeld in Ottawa

Sources from Burnt Church: charges of overnight raids from some aboriginal leaders





The new Governor General and her mate down Parliament Hill: Clarkson embracing her father: reminders of an immigrant family's remarkable story



Canada

A Canadian dream

In a ceremony brimming more with pageantry than pomp, former broadcaster Adrienne Clarkson became the country's 26th Governor General—and vowed to inject the old mix with new energy. Her frail 91-year-old father, William Pay, enjoyed a rapturous seat for the three-hour investiture on Parliament Hill. His very presence was a reminder of the family's remarkable story: four refugees escaping a torched Hong Kong in 1942 to the present, with a graceful daughter scaling the vice-regal heights, and capturing the hearts of many Canadians, in the space of a generation.

Clarkson does not shy away from her immigrant roots. Far from it. But if last Thursday's ceremony was a sign, this is a Governor General who appears determined to be known for more than the mythology of her family story. "I ask you to embark on a journey with me," Clarkson told Canadians in her nationally televised speech. Imagine, she said, "the psychic possibilities" of being Canadian, where "to be complex does not mean to be fragmented." She described a Canada that is a work in progress, built initially on the three-legged stool of French, English and aboriginal cultures and now expanded to include all colour and religions with stampeding panache like her own, "dreaming their children into being Canadians."

With Prime Minister Jean Chrétien looking on, also with the air of a proud father, Clarkson served notice the will be using her largely ceremonial office as something of a platform to further the causes of women, the arts, minority rights and the



Beast performances in the Hall of Honour; Canada as 'a work in progress'

environment. She and her newly married husband, long-time companion and philosopher John Ralston Saul—thay married on July 31—are planning to hold public meetings in every province and territory. Canadians will have to contend with some potent specifying, the kind that appears to draw effortlessly on the words of everyone from Stéphane de Chassey to Farley Mowat, and even amateur poet Leonard Cohen, whom Clarkson quoted craftily last week: "There is a crack in everything—that's how the light gets in."



Working entertainers
at the investiture in
the Senate chamber:
"embark on a journey"
with us!

An airing of the dirty linen

By Bruce Wallace in Montréal

It doesn't take much to put the spring back into a Quebec separatist's step these days. Their grand project—a much-touted independence from Canada, or at least a new partnership of equals with the rest of the country—has bogged down. But show more Quebecers want no part of another divisive referendum, so separatists are forced to celebrate mayhem wherever and whenever they occur. For a moment, one such gathering dropped into their laps last week in the swish Laurentian resort town of Mont-Tremblant, where 600 academics, bureaucrats and politicians from around the world, including U.S. President Bill Clinton, gathered at Ottawa's behest for the first International Conference on Federalism. Despite the woolly nature of a conference—with such workshop topics as "Regional Economic Development Building Partnerships or New Dependencies?"—the separatists thought they had what they wanted: a sparring match over national unity.

Led by Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard, who delivered a blistering attack on Canada during a pre-dinner introduction as opening night, separatist politicians used every open microphone for a guerrilla attack on the Canadian version of federalism. The Quebec Question overwhelmed the conference. It amazed some foreign delegates, confounded others. But it deeply irritated Ottawa officials who watched what was supposed to be a showcase for federalism around the globe get hijacked by intra-Canadian gamesmanship. Joseph Faïc, the Parti Québécois' intergovernmental affairs minister, used a panel discussion to tell Ottawa to butt out of the rules on any future referendum. Bouchard demanded and received a private audience with Clinton, a 20-minute chat that the Americans denied a courtesy call and the premier



Bouchard: Clinton and Gérardine as the birds (opposite) a strategic error on Clinton's part

Lucien Bouchard went on the attack against federalism at an international conference in Quebec, but Bill Clinton put him in his place

described as a "historic moment for Quebec." Generating national unity back into the spotlight for him seemed like a flurry sent to give the separatists heart. "We showed our strength here," crowed Bloc Québécois MP Daniel Tardif, gloating in the net banner of *inégalités et conflits* through his way.

Most media commentators agreed. Ottawa's decision to give the PQ a platform to attack Canadian federalism was devised as a strategic error equivalent to sending Russia in winter—an opinion that reflects the media obsession with symbolism over substance. No one, for example, bothered to point the PQ's Bloc members in how an independent Quebec would answer the pointed rowdy by Nigerian writer and Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka that "the great violations of human rights are occurring in unity states." Instead, the Canadian media worked themselves into a frenzy over when George Reid, a member of the independence-minded Scottish National Party (which is not even in power in Scotland), speculated that 50 per cent plus one in a referendum was enough of a mandate for Scotland to separate from Great Britain. Reid's comparison with PQ orthodoxy got him a day of headlines. Much-maligned federalists, on the other hand, had to rely on arguments from the U.S. President.

Clinton did not disappoint. In a sparkling, free-flowing dissertation on the history and promise of federalism, he warned that "when a people thinks it should be independent in order to have a meaningful political existence, serious questions should be asked." Clinton's litmus test was high. "Is there an abuse of human rights?" he asked. "Are minority rights as well as majority rights respected? How are we going to co-exist with our neighbours?" After a summary lashed with the bloody fallout from the city for national self-determination around the globe, Clinton said

federalism offered "the best of all worlds" to peoples seeking recognition of their identity without having to isolate themselves. Bouchard later conceded parts of Clinton's address were "not very helpful" to the PQ cause.

The premier's own speech to the conference will probably make the PQ's year-end highlight feel for an audience paralleling Ottawa in front of an international audience that its concern was nothing more than Bouchard's paranoid references to historical slights against Quebec and his usual rhetorical arrow. "The Canadian federal system is now engaged in a concerted strategy of invading Quebec," he declared. His speech contained glaring gaps in logic—offering no explanation as to how Quebec was flourishing "as a modern society, pluralistic in its culture, open to immigration, the world's 16th economic power," while simultaneously being targeted by "federal intrusiveness and intrusions." And there were huge historical oversights, such as his praise for the "remarkable success" of the U.S. experiment with independence, kindly omitting its four-year Civil War (which killed more Americans than the First and Second World War combined). Yet the premier accused Ottawa of behaving "belligerently" in cutting social transfers to the provinces, and warned that Jean Chrétien's Liberal government has "chosen to push us off the path further."

The premier's referendum-style stump speech may have been old hat, but his government did make a significant policy pronouncement last week. On the eve of the conference, he called the *Netword*. He told it to know the Quebec government no longer felt bound to follow the Supreme Court suspension of the legality of secession. The coast and bar year that Ottawa and the other nine provinces were obliged to negotiate new unconstitutional terms with Quebec provided the provincial government had

was a referendum with a clear majority as a clear question. The PQ originally embraced the ruling, using the requirement to negotiate a basis for the rest of Quebecers wanted that a vote for independence would never see a Yes.

But the challenge of coming up with an unambiguous question that could carry a majority was problematic for the PQ. With Clinton preparing to set out Ottawa's own version of clarity, Faïc declared Quebec would not be bound by the finding of a court whose judges were appointed by Ottawa. "All rules governing the next referendum will be determined by the national assembly of Quebec," he said, while also insisting Quebec could declare independence anytime after a Yes vote in a referendum. And he suggested the next question may not be any more straightforward than the last one in 1995, when only one-third of the voters last revealed their policies they thought Quebec would still be a province of Canada even if the Yes side won.

Despite the PQ's bark last week, the party is not positioned to dog the country into another nasty debate just yet. A close-door meeting with a U.S. president is hardly enough to awaken the PQ's睡狮like confidence. What does seem to be rekindled more from last week's conference was the promise of dialogue from far more troubled lands than Canada, addressing the belief that independence offers hope to a world that cannot afford to divide itself into ever smaller ethnic, religious and linguistic enclaves. As Clinton put it in his follow-up statement: "If we keep in mind what is the arrangement of government most likely to give us the self-government we need, without advancing we can cut all the costs that bind us to the rest of humanity. I think more and more and more people will say, you know that federalism, it is not such a bad idea." ■

Smooth recovery

Last year, a medical team at the Health Sciences Centre in London, Ont., set a Canadian first when it used a robotic device to cut a piece of a blood vessel from a patient's chest wall for use in an otherwise standard coronary bypass procedure. Surgeons elsewhere have performed bypass operations while the heart is still pumping. Some are using so-called key-hole alternatives for a variety of formerly invasive surgeries. Now, the London team has put it all together, completing the first-ever bypass surgery done at with robotic assistance, b) on a beating heart and c) without opening up the chest cavity. The patient, John Penner, a 60-year-old dairy farmer from nearby Seaford, Ont., was home four days after the Sept. 24 operation, several days short of the standard hospital stay for bypass patients. Penner says he felt wonderful within 24 hours of the procedure and is busy again reading his 20 young cards. "It's a great feeling," he says, "to be back at work without having to stop for a rest every five or 10 minutes."

A new heart-bypass procedure eliminates the need to open the chest

Using a \$1.25-million robotic system bought with a gift from local philanthropists, cardiac surgeon Douglas Boyd performed the six-hour procedure from a console six feet away from the operating table. His equipment controlled three miniature robotic arms, one holding

a video camera. Entering Penner's chest through tiny incisions, they cut a piece of a blood vessel from his chest wall there—for the first time—sewed it onto a coronary artery to let the blood flow around a blockage.

The procedure spares patients the long, painful recovery from having their ribs pried apart to give the surgeon access to the heart. And it avoids the risks of a stroke or other complications associated with stopping the heart and running the blood through a heart-lung machine. Acknowledging that the new technology presents its own potential risks, Boyd plans to introduce the technique gradually. He expects to use it initially in about 85 of the 1,700 bypass procedures the hospital does each year. But ultimately, he thinks it will work for almost a third of bypass cases and for heart valve repairs. John Penner's experience, says Boyd, provides a preview of cardiac surgery in the new millennium.

Robert Marshall



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Bruce Wallace

Courting disaster

Ask Jean Chretien about his lack of a grand political vision and you'll get a scowl and a well-worn answer that good government is all about managing problems. Freed from the distraction of your projects (recall Brian Mulroney's Conservatives who never seemed happy unless they were fighting major wars on spend frenzies or taxes), the Liberals have named governing into the simple art of hanging prairies back into the ground as soon as they plow through the surface. But lately the Chretien government has looked unusually inept. First, the Liberals fumbled their handling of the Air Canada-Canadian Airlines battle, with the Prime Minister and his transport minister sending conflicting signals about whether shareholders or the government will have the final say on the outcome. And last week, there was the sorry sight of a confused government, apparently blindsided at native and native fisheries fraught, cut lobster traps and burned each other's properties in a session in a Supreme Court ruling over fishing rights. So much for managerial competence.

Sadly, the violent response to the Supreme Court ruling was predictable. (Just one thing, the Liberals might ponder: whether their own 1995 decision to fine fishers across the bow of a Spanish trawler caught trawling in international waters has emboldened others to use the cover of "conservation" to break the law. Chretien should hardly be wagging fingers at the thugs who cut native lobster traps loose last week.) Yet, the court issued the government a nasty curve by ruling that a 1760 treaty between the Crown and the Mi'kmaq nation is still in effect, giving native the right to fish whenever they want. But the judges are notorious parliament pitchers, consistently dishing up wacky judgments that torment governments. On a longshot case, Chief Justice Antonio LaRocque's court has made it clear that it is the Crown's honour that is always at stake. No hint of "sharp dealing" on the part of the Crown, as his court put it in the 1996 Badger case on native hunting rights, will be tolerated. And the judges hardly seem naive: they will always get the benefit of any doubt in their court.

LaRocque's court has also declared the need to take into account what it calls "extraordinary evidence." A treaty's wording alone is not enough on which to base a decision. The court also accounts for oral terms that may have accompanied the treaty, and even the historical and cultural context in which the document was signed. This has the effect of turning the Supreme Court into an amateur history class. In the fishery case, the buckshot to the monarch's violence in New Brunswick, the writings of the split court read like those of quarreling hairy apes, with each side speculating on what the framers of the 18th-century treaty really meant—as opposed to what the words on the parchment said.

This is a long way from judges dredging which lawyer made a better case for their cause. It allows them behind the scenes to root all over the historical landscape to shape a judgment. It leads to their fruitless attempt to redefine what European meant in 1760 by "necessary"—which was the use of the word the Mi'kmaq were originally granted—into 21st-century terms. The court updated messiness to the equally vague "moderate livelihood," which can only lead to more arguments.

In their obsession with getting inside the heads of people who lived 240 years ago, the judges forget about the real-world implications of the genocide they were rolling into Terra Nullius. Sadly if they can consider the social and historical context of an earlier time, our highest judges can take account of the social, economic and political climate their decisions will affect. Getting history right is fine. But the truly wise would also lift their eyes to the world outside their chamber, and look ahead.

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Not enough evidence

RCMP investigation in Alberta admitted last week they do not yet have enough evidence to lay charges in the June death of Kieran Willis, 16, who died after being shot while partying with friends on the property of controversial activist Wiebo Ludwig. Utterly perturbed, Ludwig warned of further violence if he continues to be harassed. In Calgary, meanwhile, officials of the Social Credit party announced that Ludwig intends to run for the party leadership despite the fact he is facing charges of slogans vandalism. The party will elect a leader on Nov. 6.

Olivieri goes to Ottawa

Dr. Nancy Olivieri, the head of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children's blood diseases program, appeared before a Health Canada board to present her findings that disperase, a controversial drug that is supposed to offset the effects of the blood disorder thalassemia, is unsafe. Olivieri briefly lost her job in 1996 after warning patients about deleterious effects, while Apotex Inc., of Toronto, which manufactures the drug and funded Olivieri's study, insists it is safe. More than a dozen U.S. and British scientists have written to Ottawa supporting her. The drug has been approved in Europe.

Murders are down

The national homicide rate has dropped to its lowest level in 30 years, Statistics Canada reported. There were 355 murders last year, down 31 from the previous year, for a 1998 rate of 1.03 killings per 100,000 people. That is less than a third of the U.S. rate, but higher than most European countries.

Swing over Anne

Three descendants of Lucy Maud Montgomery are being sued by the company that created the glorified 1986 TV series based on *Anne of Green Gables*. Sullivan Entertainment says it was misguided by the defendants' claims that they have not been paid royalties, and that the summertime legal battle is causing a financial hit to the public offering on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Sullivan says it owes no royalties because the property is supposed a profit.



Grief in a northern community

Residents of Moose Factory, Ont., on the northern tip of James Bay, mourn the deaths of Kenneth Etchells, 37, his nine-year-old son and an uncle. His wife Anna, 34, two other children, a niece and a family friend also were presumed dead after a fierce storm capsized their boat during a goose-hunting trip.

Etchells' lawyer, John Conroy, the defendants were not looking for a victim on the night of Gill's death, which occurred after the fire had been drinking heavily. Conroy, who is asking for a sentence of two years in addition to the 10 years Etchells has been held, said his client has renounced racism. But in the case of co-defendant Nathan LeBlanc, the court heard last week that he had written to John William Rüg of Japan, "Sir"—now facing the death penalty for the brutal June 7 dragging death of a black man—stating King "should have been given a medal." The hearing is expected to conclude this week.

An uproar over red-hot lists

Clients of a Toronto-area escort agency will not have their names made public in the trial of agency manager Mark Lukic, who is charged with 16 counts of living off the proceeds of prostitution. Ontario Superior Court Justice Henry Keanan ruled last week that the names were irrelevant—even bigots. Interest in the case grew from unauthorised reports that NFL players' names appeared in the lists—and testimony that those names may have been HIV-positive.



Greenpeace activists spread a crop of soya beans near Newark, England, in July global battle

supermarket shelves, where GM goods are increasingly rare. In India cotton fields, where engineered pest-resistant cotton varieties believed to have been genetically altered. The 15 nations of the European Union are implementing regulations calling for the labeling of all products with even a trace of GM ingredients. Last summer, Japan's two leading breeders, Sapporo and Kinki, announced they would stop using genetically modified corn by the year 2000. Monsanto had pledged, shortly before Sharp's similar decision, that it would not market controversial "terminator" crop seeds that in future could produce lucrative, one-season-only plants. "The message is sorry," said Germany's Deutsches Institut in a recent report on genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, prepared for the world's farmers. "GMOs increasingly are, in our opinion, becoming a liability to farmers. We predict that GMOs, once perceived as the driver of the bull [market] race for this sector, will now be perceived as a pest."

That process is already well under way in both the United States and Canada, where a two-tier market for grains is fast developing. Increasingly, genetically "improved" crops are ending at deep discount, while European processors have been willing to pay premiums of as much as \$1.50 a bushel for non-GM crops. In September, the huge U.S. grain processing corporation, Archer Daniels Midland, advised American grain farmers to begin segregating GM and non-GM

seeds to weed killer. Canadian producers do not segregate their crop, making it virtually unavailable on Europe. If the trends continue, a similar fate may await future Canadian crops to the country's three other major markets for canola seeds—the United States, Japan and Mexico, all of which are also experiencing ramifications of concern about GM products.

The problem is at much about public perception as it is about science. In Europe, the anti-GM battle has been waged against the buckshot of a series of European food scares that began with BSE, or "mad cow" disease, in Britain and has escalated with scandals over carcinogenic dioxin in Belgian poultry and dairy products and the use in France and elsewhere of sewage sludge in animal feeds. The aggressive stance of U.S.-based agribusiness giants has not helped. The U.S. government, responding to pressure from the powerful agriculture lobby in Washington, has taken the Europeans to court at the World Trade Organization, winning successive decisions against Europe's restrictions on Caribbean bananas and growth hormone additives in beef. The Americans have threatened similar challenges to European resistance to the use of genetically engineered grains.

The combined effect has been to shatter Europeans' confidence in what they are eating and drinking as well as fueling deep misgivings about the unregulated power of U.S. multinational corporations. "There has been an unprecedented, permanent and irreversible shift in the political landscape," Greenpeace's Lord Melchett said Sharpless for *week*. "People are increasingly aware and mistrustful of the combination of big science and big business."

Even the normally apolitical Prince Charles has entered the debate. The much-maligned heir to the British throne gave a major boost to the campaign in June with a force attack on the safety of GM crops, evidently sparked by Prime Minister Tony Blair's contemptuous dismissal of the "spinoffs" leaving the GM opponents. The Prince, who operates his own lucrative organic farming business, posed what he termed 10 unanswered questions in a widely disseminated newspaper article. "What I believe the public reaction shows," wrote Charles, "is that increasingly we are nervous about tampering with nature when we can't see that we know enough of the consequences."

The Prince's concerns are shared by many. It is no accident, for example, that in his first major address to the European parliament last week, the newly elected president of the European Commission, Italy's Romano Prodi, singled out food safety as the top priority of his infant administration. He proposed that a pan-European food agency be established with such a task involving British beef, Belgian chicken and U.S. genetic modification. "We have to provide answers," he said. "To those who are wondering if official information can be trusted these days, or is it all being manipulated for economic and political purposes?" On farms across the globe, the answer may be blowing in the wind. ■

World

The Food Fight

By Barry James in London

In keeping with the message, the medium was unusually high-spirited: a transatlantic encounter conducted live by television satellite. Up on the giant screen in the London conference hall, Robert Shapiro, chief executive officer of the Monsanto Co., listened passively as the American biotechnology conglomerate he heads was assailed over the coils by Peter Melchett, the British activist who is executive director of the environmental organization Greenpeace in Britain. Lord Melchett accused Monsanto of "bullying" an ever more amenable public into reluctant acceptance of a wide range of genetically modified foods, everything from soybeans to corn to Canadian canola oil. Shapiro's response, however, was not quite what his hosts to be expected from the head of the most aggressive biotech firm on the planet. "If I'm a bully," he maffily noted, "then I'm not a very successful bully."

The result has been a spreading public suspicion of what is known in Europe as GM—genetically modified—foods and elsewhere often as GE—genetically engineered—products. The implications for North American farmers are huge: Canada and the United States are becoming the only markets where GM foods can readily be sold, and that may not last. Anti-GM activists have already launched a campaign to rally Canadian consumers (page 46).

The central annual draw measure of opposition from the gathering of environmental scientists organized by Green-

peace. For it marked a significant victory for the country's ecological warriors, the first high-profile acknowledgement that the world's biotech industry, based largely in the United States, along the global battle to convince the public of the benefits of genetic engineering, fraud, consumers are increasingly fearful that there could be unknown side-effects. "We have informed and persuaded more people than we have persuaded," Shapiro admitted to his London audience. "Our confidence in biotechnology has been widely seen as arrogant and condescending. Too often we forget to listen."

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The evidence of the turnaround is everywhere, from British



Canada faces big losses as consumers reject genetically modified crops

U.S. researcher works on genetically altered plants: a problem of parasitics

crops. At the same time, the two main U.S. Soya food manufacturers, Gerber Products Co. and H. J. Heinz Co., declared they would no longer use genetically modified corn or soybeans in any of their products.

Canadian canola farmers have been hardest hit by the trend. In 1994, Canadian exports to the European Union of canola seed, destined for crushing into oil, peaked at \$425 million. "Now there's squat," says Ian Thorsteinson, agricultural counselor at the Canadian High Commission in London. "What's happened is that we have completely lost a market that was worth close to half a billion dollars annually in good years." Part of the problem lies in the farming techniques of canola producers in Canada, where between 60 and 70 percent of the annual crop is genetically engineered to render it



World

Ill-fitting genes?

Activists in Canada campaign against genetic alteration

By Susan McClelland

It was fitting that Greenpeace activists would choose the stately confines of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto for a protest against genetically altered food. On the building's lower level, a historical display highlights the artifice of the 19th-century Prairie farming under. On the fourth floor last week, greenpeace activist chef Jamie Kennedy harked back to those simpler times with an all-orange pre-Thanksgiving meal, complete with chestnut and apple pie, in science, food distribution and some local farmers gathered to denounce the change wrought in the 20th-century agriculture. The event was part of a newly launched national campaign to ban so-called GMOs—genetically modified organisms—in Canadian food. Greenpeace warns there is little known about the long-term environmental and health effects of genetic manipulation

"The public was not involved in deciding whether they wanted this," said Michael Kho, the Greenpeace campaigner. "And there is just no scientific evidence to say that this is safe."

The aims of modification are usually straightforward: scientists alter a plant's genetic structure to improve its quality or to make it resistant to insects, pesticides and herbicides. Many farmers consider it a boon. Up to 70 per cent of canola and 35 per cent of corn grown in Canada has been genetically altered. Health Canada has approved 42 genetically modified foods for consumption, although not all are on the market. But only one producer, a heavily sheltered canola, requires mandatory labelling. "The others are mixed into the market with traditional products," said Kho, "so that consumers often don't know what they are getting."

Business has already begun to respond to rising public concern. An official at the Loblaw supermarket chain told *Afghan* that some of its popular President's Choice products may contain GMOs, but the company is still investigating the extent. A Kellogg Canada spokeswoman said genetically modified grains may be used in some of

the firm's cereals. Both companies say they are working with industry associations that last month began developing standards for voluntary labelling.

Critics, however, say the government must make labelling mandatory. Many opponents also take aim at the close relationship between Ottawa and the industry. The Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy, an ecological watchdog organization, estimates that this year about \$200 million in federal subsidies will go to food biotechnology. "It has been policy in Canada since 1982 to support the biotech industry," says Vancouver writer and ex-farmer Brewster Keen, author of *Forrespoofid Food and the Culture of Biotechnology*. "The government and these companies have deliberately pushed this stuff onto the shelves with as little public information as possible."

Ann Clark, an agricultural scientist at the University of Guelph in Ontario, criticizes Ottawa for accepting data provided by biotech firms in order to approve a GMO, rather than use a system of independent review and long-term assessments. But proponents insist that Canadian regulatory standards are rigorous, and that products that hit the market are safe. "You have to remember," says Bryan Harsley, co-ordinator of agricultural research at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, "that as long as men have been cultivating plants, we have been using much crude methods to create new variants. And I have great difficulty understanding an environmental group ignoring that we are producing much friendlier approaches to the control of weeds and insects."

Gordon Dandy, who owns an organic farm about 85 km northeast of Toronto, brought a grower's fears to the ROM luncheon. He worries that seedlings from farms raising GMOS may contaminate the four hectares of vegetable seeds he planted on his farm. "These profusions are not like a car or toy—they can't be recalled," says Dandy. "The consequences can't be known." Canadian consumers are use to learn more in coming months as the debate rages. ■



The grisly realm of 'Dr. Death'

Two ex-associates in Canada prepare to testify

At O'Grady's Restaurant in downtown North Bedford, the name "Dr. Death" is whispered repeatedly over coffee. Jacobus Bothma, a former South African military doctor, has worked as an orthopedic surgeon in the central Sasolburg town city since 1994. But last week, court documents filed in Pretoria drew grisly links between Bothma and "Doctor Basson," the man nicknamed Dr. Death. Often compared to the Nazi Joseph Mengele, Basson masterminded a germ-and-chemical warfare campaign against blacks in apartheid-era South Africa and neighbouring states. As part of an experiment, Sasolburg's Bothma allegedly spread a deadly substance on three prisoners. When the chemicals failed to work, the three were executed by lethal injection. Now Bothma has agreed to testify against his former boss. All this leaves sole owner Declan O'Grady incredulous. "What is a guy like that?" he wonders, "doing here?"

As Dr. Death's sensational murder trial begins, photons outside Pretoria's high court waver placards denouncing his evil work. Inside, the horrendous charges were read into the record, but Basson, dressed in a grey suit, showed little emotion. The massive 274-page indictment outlines 67 charges against him, including 16 counts of murder, conspiracy to commit murder, drug trafficking and fraud stemming from the misuse of government funds. Nearly 250 witnesses are expected to be called in the trial, which could take up to three years to complete. "The trial will be of



vital importance," said Viashali Jadhav of the Johannesburg-based group Lawyers for Human Rights. "The revelations will shock by exposing the tactic used to shore up apartheid."

In addition to North Bedford's Bothma, two other former South Africans living in Canada, Dron and Amritsar Enzani of Toronto, also worked with Basson. Prosecutors say Amritsar Enzani, who, like her husband, has landed-immigrant status in Canada, will be called to certify. Although she has and she was simply a bystander for one of Basson's first experiments, she has admitted the vaccination at his \$500,000 hideaway in Ascot, England, purchased with state funds. It was there that some of Basson's most notorious, code-named Project Coast were conducted. His husband, Dron, who is a general practitioner in Pretoria, was a member of 7 Medical Battalion, the covert South African Defense Force unit that was members of Project Coast were drawn. He has denied any knowledge of Basson's illicit work and is not expected to testify.

The key of Project Coast, which un-



Basson (above); Bothma; exposing the tactics used to shore up apartheid

folded in testimony before South Africa's now-completed Truth and Reconciliation Commission in its investigation of apartheid-era crimes, basson is an enigma. Not only did Basson seem developing quantities of killer cholera, anthrax and botulism viruses, they also attempted to develop a chemical that would sterilize black women and another that would kill only blacks. Other toxins, designed to be delivered with poison tipped stings and screwscrews, could kill without leaving a trace. Basson even set up companies to produce agencies based on anthrax, potassium chlorate and sugar containing strichna. Under one plan that was never carried out, the imprisoned Nelson Mandela, later president, was to be poisoned to the point of losing his mental capacity.

Basson is also accused of conspiracy to murder nearly 200 guerrillas in neighboring Namibia who were allegedly wounded with an injection of a muscle relaxant. They died horribly when their lungs collapsed, and their bodies were later dumped in the sea. However, because the deaths took place outside South Africa, the court is still considering whether to proceed with the charges. Basson is also accused of manipulating government funds to finance his murderous operation, and of raking cash through drug trafficking.

According to the indictment, Bothma was drawn into this madness in 1983, while he was working at Pretoria's 1 Moltenay Hospital. Basson allegedly told Bothma he had been ordered to kill "certain people" and carry out ex-

VOL	DESTINATION	DEPARTURES
402	VANCOUVER	DELAYED/RETARDE
425	TORONTO	DELAYED/RETARDE
346	TORONTO	DELAYED/RETARDE
531	MONTREAL	CANCELLED/ANNULE
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World

pediment on them before they died. Subsequently, those victims were laid to rest in a sunken forest, and the document states that Bothma buried their bodies with an intention. When the submarine failed to kill, the indictment says, the men were injected with nitrate releases, which caused them to suffocate. Bothma initially refused to comment when approached by reporters last week, but he offered one insight into the mentality of white South Africa at the time: "It's a terrible thing for one to live through," he said. "People think you are evil. But they were the war years. Things happen."

Antoinette Esman's testimony will also be watched closely. She worked as a liaison for InfraNet (Pty) Ltd., a Pretoria-based company set up to fund a government ministry to Project Coast. She asserts she never had intimate knowledge of Basson's work, but in the indictment she is named as a director in a web of military front companies used by Basson.

The indictment also lists her name as A. H. Louwana. Until the early 1990s, she was married to Jan Louwana, a key state witness who gave sensational testimony to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission last year. He and his husband two wads of toxin and five specially constructed accelerators to special forces operators at Basson's laboratory in Arco. Louwana said they were to be used against anti-apartheid activists from Mandela Africa National Congress.

Basson seems unapologetic about his operations. "This was an executive project and very good work was done," he told investigators. But in North Bedford, such statements only complicate the puzzle surrounding Bothma. The surgeon, who was granted a five-year permit to work until he passed his Sasolchewen medical exams, has failed three times and must close his practice by January. Many people in the city suspect he was a first doctor, but Dr. O'Gandy's, his associate with Dr. Dent, has cast a long, darkening shadow.

*Tara Fenner with Hugo Gibbons
in Johannesburg*

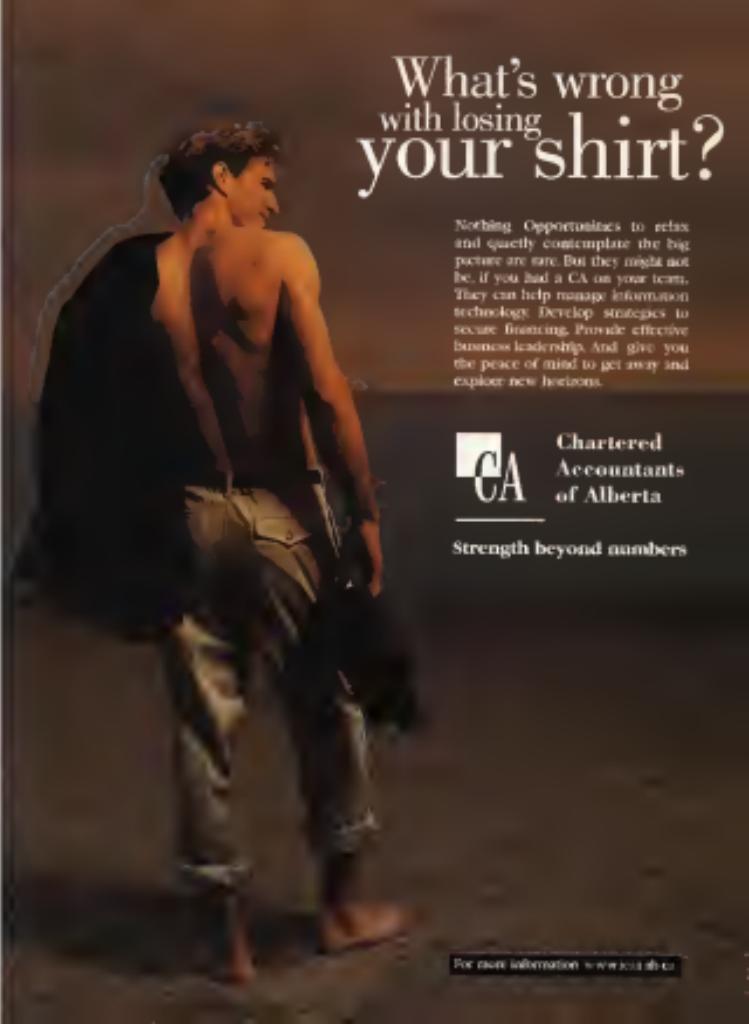
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Pinochet's fate

Human-rights activists celebrated after a British judge ruled that former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet could be extradited to Spain to face 35 torture and conspiracy charges arising from his iron-fisted regime. The ailing Pinochet, 83, remained under house arrest in London, while his lawyers were expected to file an appeal. A final decision on his fate is likely in late October.

South Korean nuclear leak

Twenty-two workers were exposed to radiation after a leak of highly radioactive water at a South Korean nuclear plant using a Canadian-designed CANDU reactor. The leak was quickly stopped, but protesters drew parallels with neighbouring Japan's worst nuclear accident, which occurred five days earlier. Then, the government expanded its probe of contamination from a uranium processing plant, fearing that more people were exposed than initially thought.

Deadly Timor clash

Two Australian peacekeeping soldiers were wounded in a firefight with East Timorese militiamen in which two anti-independence fighters died. The clash took place during a sweep through a militia stronghold near the border with Indonesia's West Timor province.

Austrian rightist win

The far-right Freedom party, which campaigned on an anti-immigration platform, won second place in Austria's elections, raising the possibility that it might enter the government coalition led by the Social Democrats. Freedom leader Joerg Haider has stirred Jewish groups with past praise of Adolf Hitler's "decent employment policies."

Trump weighs a run

Bronx-based New York City developer Donald Trump set up a committee to explore running for the U.S. presidency in 2000 under the Reform Party banner. Trump, who has never held elected office, has gained support from ex-governor Jose Vazquez, the Reform governor of Minnesota, in a struggle with founder Ross Perot over the future of the fringe party.



Wrecked carriages, minutes after the crash (below); a driver moved a stop signal

A horrific train disaster in London

The bodies of most of the victims of the worst British rail disaster in the past half-century may never be recovered. They were incinerated in a fierce diesel-fuelled fireball when two rail-car commuter trains collided outside London's Paddington Station. While more than 200 people were reported missing at the time of the crash, by the weekend investigators had only managed to find 36 bodies in the twisted and tangled wreckage.

Many other victims were travelling in a first-class carriage at the front of the Great Western express, which left Cheltenham on time at 8.05 am on Oct. 5, bound for Paddington. The carriage was spared with locomotive diesel fuel when the 8.06 Thames Tideway commuter service from Paddington to Bedfont plopped into the express in the West London neighbourhood of Ladbrooke Grove. It caught fire, engulfing the trapped passengers in flames intense enough to turn bone into fine ash.

Police are still not sure exactly how many died in the disaster. Aside from the 34 bodies recovered, up to 74 possible passengers were still counted as missing by weekend end. Preliminary findings indicated that the driver of the Thames Tideway, a 31-year-old



Michael Hodder, missed a red stop signal and ran head on into the Great Western express. At the time, the Thames train was travelling at 89 mph, the express at 110 mph, for a combined collision speed of 190 mph. Hodder's novice wife, qualified two months ago, died in the accident.

If the early signs point to the driver as prime culprit, however, neither the two train companies involved nor the private firm managing the track system are likely to escape due scrutiny once a public inquiry into the violent commences. Searcher Justice Lord Callaghan, who previously investigated the 1996 Dunblane massacre of 16 schoolchildren, will be looking closely at infamous signal 189 at Latcliffe Grove. Hodder was not the last to run it. He has been named eight times in the past five years, so frequently that the track managers were in the process of improving the system.

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World Notes



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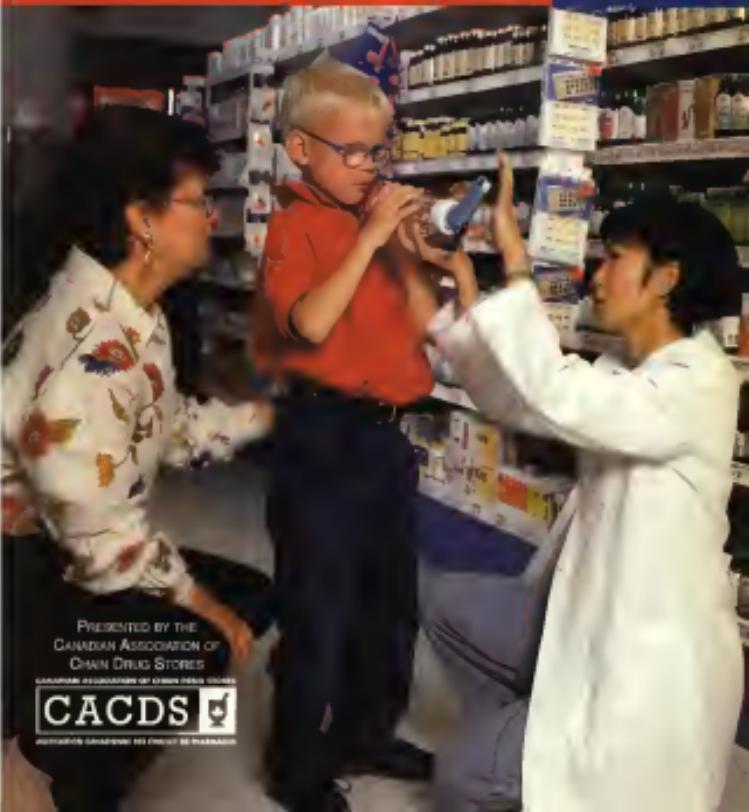
Russia's air force stepped up its bombing campaign against Muslim rebels in Chechnya, intensifying an conflict even as talks were continuing among the top half of the breakaway republic. Moscow hopes the cease fire will prevent further attacks by rebels against targets in Russia, but many analysts fear a repeat of Russia's 1994-1996 war in Chechnya, in which thousands of people died. Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov, who said Russian bombs had killed innocent civilians, asked NATO to help end the fighting. But Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov told visiting European Union foreign affairs commissioner Chris Patten that the Chechen issue is an internal Russian affair. The EU is concerned about the 100,000 refugees who fled to the impoverished neighboring region of Ingushetia.

Indians vote for stability

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpeyi's 24-party alliance won a clear majority in India's parliamentary elections. The result, the first re-election of an incumbent premier in 27 years, provides a chance for a stable government that can pursue economic reform and peace with Pakistan. The alliance, led by Vajpeyi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, won at least 297 of 537 seats. Votes gave the Congress party, led by Indian-born Sonia Gandhi, an unexpected defeat, evidently due to concerns about a foreign-born leader and the Congress role in bringing down the government.

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ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

If you have been diagnosed with a chronic health condition, like asthma, diabetes, or heart disease, it may have come as a crushing blow. Many people feel as if their bodies have betrayed them. But such a diagnosis can simply be a wake-up call, rather than a sentence of ill health. With a little help, you should be able to manage your condition, and live a normal, healthy life.

Perhaps the most accessible health-care professional available to consult about controlling your health condition is your neighbourhood pharmacist. Why turn to a pharmacist? With at least four years of specialized university study,

pharmacists have a detailed understanding of the workings of the human body, as well as the use of drugs for disease prevention. They are often just around the corner and often available up to 24 hours a day. They are the experts in medication use; and in many cases you can consult them without even making an appointment.

According to a recent *Canada Health Monitor* survey, four in 10 Canadians with at least one chronic condition (including high blood pressure, arthritis, heart trouble, asthma/asthmatics/chronic bronchitis, diabetes and cancer) reported that their pharmacist was "very involved" in advising them on their medications and health-care equipment or devices, and a total of 68 per cent reported their pharmacist was "very" or "somewhat" involved.

Helping Patients Get a Handle on Chronic Diseases

That involvement goes beyond a quick chat when patients pick up medications. Pharmacists across the country make a special effort to offer their patients counseling, programs and information to help them stay in control of their health conditions. What to know about diabetes, asthma and hypertension, among other conditions? There is an expert at your neighborhood drug store.

Pharmacists stay abreast of medical developments concerning chronic diseases through their own reading, and through national and special study courses available at many of the drug store chains. At Jean Coutu Group in Quebec, pharmacists attend eight continuing training conferences a year. "Those who cannot make it, can study at home. As well, the company subscribes to Montreal's Sainte-Justine Hospital's Pharmaceutical Information Centre hot line, which can answer any questions they cannot

immediately respond to themselves." At Shoppers Drug Mart, pharmacists participate in self-study programs, including written information, along with videos and workshops. "We train our pharmacists so they can help with disease management every day," says Shoppers' vice-president of pharmacy marketing, Virginia Caneva.

Special clinics at drug stores provide detailed information for patients about managing certain diseases. A recent three-day event at Pharma Plus stores in Ontario and Winnipeg, for example, focused on heart health, including cholesterol, blood pressure and nutrition. "We see over 12,000 people," says president of pharmacy, Art Bo.

Blood pressure machines have become a common fixture in many drug stores all year round, as pharmacists work to give patients the tools they need to continue to live a healthy life. "People may be concerned about their blood pressure because of a family history," says Bo. "But they may not get around to booking an appointment



with their doctor to check it. We give them the opportunity to come in and get screened without too much trouble 365 days a year."

Frequently pharmacists also hand out brochures, tip sheets and even videos to patients looking for information about a particular health condition. "This not only increases the patient's knowledge and comfort level during their visit to the pharmacy, but it's information that can be taken home with them afterwards," says Kevin Kowalewski, Zellers/Say Pharmacy regional pharmacy manager. Jane Hinshaw, vice-president of pharmacy for the IDA, Canadian Rx Control and Community Drug Mart stores says, "Advances in technology helps us focus on patients' needs and to provide individualized services. Patients really appreciate it."

Pay for Pharmacists' Minds, Not Their Product



Although pharmacists are already very involved in helping patients manage their health conditions, there is a movement afoot to enhance their role in caring for patients even further. "In that era of upshift and change in the health-care system, many health-care professionals have stepped out of their traditional roles to take on the provision of new services," says Ellen Mary Mills, vice-president of policy and public affairs for the Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores. "Pharmacy is one such profession that is here to stay."

Recently a special plan dubbed The Foundation Pharmacy Initiative was created

to reduce overall health-care costs and employee absenteeism. Launched in Fredericton and Ottawa, N.B., the project will track 250 government employees and their dependents who suffer from asthma, ulcers or chronic bronchitis. Through out the year-long study patients will get detailed information about their prescriptions and their disease conditions. As well, pharmacists will provide suggestions for lifestyle changes that will make their patients feel better in the long run.

A consulting firm will follow up with patients at three, six, nine and twelve months to determine whether there is any drop in the number of work days lost to illness, and whether hospital visits have been cut back. Says Jeff Perton, president of the Canadian Pharmacists Association: "I think the remaining services that pharmacists can be legitimate to provide are going to lead both to improvement in the individual patient's quality of life, and also cut savings in the health-care system."

A patient who suffers from just one disease—medicines, say asthma, can probably be given a basic education about their medications, asthma triggers and possible lifestyle changes in 15 minutes, points out Perton. But for an older person who is perhaps housebound and may have four or five diseases, it can take 45 minutes just to review their medications and how they're working. One of the challenges for the profession of pharmacy is deciding on a reimbursement policy that makes sense for both these scenarios.

While most pharmacy representatives are discussing payment for each specialized service such governments and insurance companies whose drug plans will foot the bill, some pharmacists are already offering customized counseling for which patients are happy to pay despite Helena Depp's plain-spoken message with Medical Pharmacists, or others. One is one of them.

Depp rapidly speaks to a special audience group about a variety of topics, from Multiple Sclerosis to hypertension. As well, she offers detailed customized sessions—the initial consultation for free, with a fee for any further sessions.

Says Richard Maynard of Jean Costa Group, "Pharmacy is more than the distribution of medications. Our profession is alive and evolving rapidly, thanks to new initiatives by pharmacists across the country." ■

Breathing Lessons: Keeping Asthma in Check

Every year, about 500 Canadians die of asthma, a disease characterized by episodes of breathlessness, wheezing and coughing. Basically asthma is caused by inflammation in the bronchi (the lung's airway), which narrows the air passages and makes breathing difficult.

The condition often runs in families, but can also be triggered by respiratory viral infections, as well as dust, pollen, animal dander, or pollution, tobacco smoke, food or food additives, exercise or cold air. The good news, according to Dr. Kenneth Chapman, director of the Asthma Center of the Alberta Health Network in Edmonton, is that "Asthma is a completely invisible and controllable." Deaths from asthma, Chapman continues, should be extremely rare; in fact,

"it's generally held that 80 per cent of asthma deaths are preventable."

The first step in managing asthma is recognizing and avoiding triggers. Allergy skin tests can help lay down the substances that are making you sick. "The classic is the cat at home," says Dr. Chapman. "Our surveys indicated that half of the children with asthma were living with pets, but they appeared to have allergies to." Other triggers that may bring the humidity level in your house low, laundering bedding every two weeks, getting rid of carpets and stuffed toys, and vacuuming the mattress and box spring in a separate plastic or vinyl cover.

Asthma drugs also provide an effective line of defense against dangerous asthma attacks. But Dr. Chapman cautions people to make sure the diagnosis of asthma is correct. Chapman also points out that many people with emphysema or chronic bronchitis are incorrectly diagnosed with asthma. If you are over the age of 45 or 50 and have been smoking for over 20 years, your breathing problems may well be emphysema.

Depp rapidly speaks to a special audience group about a variety of topics, from Multiple Sclerosis to hypertension. As well, she offers detailed customized sessions—the initial consultation for free, with a fee for any further sessions.

ASTHMA DRUGS: Attack the cause, not the symptom

In years past, asthma patients had no alternative but to treat the symptoms of asthma,

without being able to affect the cause. But there has been a revolution in asthma treatment. New patients are able to treat the underlying inflammation, reverse frightening asthma episodes in the home. Here is a guide to the two main types of asthma medications and what they do.

Anti-inflammatories (Preventers or Relievers)

A key component of modern asthma treatment, anti-inflammatories reduce the lung inflammation and excess mucus production that cause asthma symptoms. Anti-inflammatories can actually help to prevent the development of asthma symptoms. Although you may not feel the effects of the medication immediately, over the long-term these drugs can help you stay in control of your condition.



Bronchodilators (Relievers)

These medications provide more immediate relief of asthma symptoms by quickly widening compressed airways and relaxing the muscles surrounding the bronchi, preventing bronchospasms. They should be used sparingly, though, since they do nothing to prevent lung inflammation, leaving you open to further attacks of asthma.

WHAT IS AN ASTHMA ACTION PLAN?

An asthma action plan is a detailed set of instructions compiled by a doctor and pharmacist, in conjunction with you, the patient, to give better control over asthma. It may specify

- A) Potential triggers, and how they can be avoided.
- B) What asthma medications should be taken and how often.
- C) How to recognize the symptoms of a worsening asthma episode (including waking at night with symptoms, or for a child, changes in peak-flow meter readings).
- D) When to step up the frequency of doses.
- E) When to add or change medications.
- F) What to do in an asthma attack.

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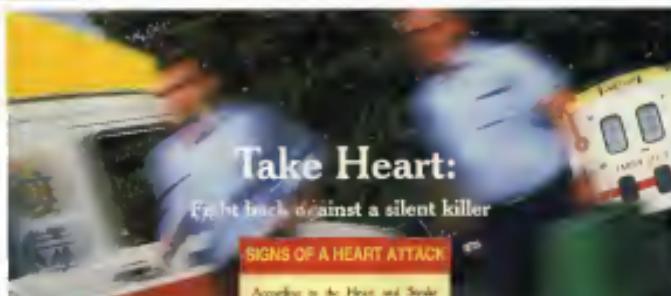
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Take Heart:

Fight back against a silent killer

SIGNS OF A HEART ATTACK

According to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, only two out of every five Canadians over age 45 can name even a single sign of a heart attack. If you experience any of the following symptoms, tell someone and get emergency help immediately.

A) Chest pain - You may just experience some tightness or discomfort, or the pain may be crushing, burning or feel like pressure and pressure at your chest.

- B) Pain in one or both arms, or your neck, shoulder or jaw.
- C) Shortness of breath.
- D) Paleness, sweating or weakness.
- E) Nausea, vomiting and/or indigestion.
- F) Extreme fatigue.

UNDER PRESSURE



It's important to get your blood pressure checked.

If you have never had high blood pressure in the past, Wriggler advises, monitoring your blood pressure two or three times a year should be enough. If you have a tendency toward high blood pressure, try for once a month. Many pharmacies offer the free use of blood pressure machines.

I scheme heart disease (IHD) is the number 1 killer of men and women in Canada today, accounting for about 23 per cent of deaths in Canada in 1995.

According to Dr. Andrew Wriggler, a car designer and professor of medicine at the University of Ottawa, IHD results from a build-up of plaque in the blood vessels that supply the heart muscle with oxygenated blood. Bits of plaque may also break off, forming blood clots in the heart's arteries.

The good news is, even if you have a history of heart disease in the family, you can reduce your own risk of developing the disease. "At least half of the cases of heart disease are related to lifestyle," says Dr. Wriggler. The most important things you can do, get some exercise, check your blood pressure regularly and eat a heart-healthy diet. To that end, avoid saturated fat from animal products like meat and dairy, advises Dr. Wriggler, and fill up on healthy vegetables and fruits.

ARE YOU AT RISK OF HEART DISEASE?

Heart disease is to some extent inherited and you cannot do much about your family genes. But genetics is only one of the risk factors and almost all of the others can be altered, if not eliminated, for a healthier lifestyle. Take the Heart and Stroke Foundation's risk factor quiz. And remember: If you check off just one box, you double your risk of a heart attack. Bet you

check off two boxes, your risk is eight times higher and three boxes gives you an 11 times greater risk of heart attack.

Risk Factor Quiz

(Check all that apply)

A) Family history of heart disease (especially parents, sister or brother suffered a heart attack or required heart surgery before age 65).

- Smoking
- High blood pressure
- Elevated blood cholesterol level
- Inactive lifestyle
- Overweight
- Diabetes
- Feeling stressed

STROKE SYMPTOMS: MOVE FAST

By reacting quickly to the warning signs of a stroke and getting medical help immediately, you can greatly improve the outcome. Here is what to look out for:

- ◆ Tingling or numbness in the face, difficulty breathing or chest pain.
- ◆ Fever or elevated temperature.
- ◆ Sudden, intense or severe headache.
- ◆ Paralysis, numbness or weakness in face, arm or leg, especially on one side.
- ◆ Unconscious or sudden falls.
- ◆ Speech is difficult or you may have trouble comprehending what others are saying.
- ◆ Nausea and vomiting

glutinin

flu virus

size: 0.2 microns.

Just a reminder: Nothing is too small to discuss with your HEALTHWATCH® Pharmacist.

BUTT OUT AND SAVE YOUR HEART

Smoking harms the heart and blood vessels—but only does nicotine cause the heart to beat more quickly, increasing its demand for oxygen, but the carbon monoxide contained in tobacco smoke decreases the amount of oxygen in the blood, making the heart beat even faster. To add to the damage, smoking speeds the build up of deposits on the inner lining of arteries impeding blood flow.

Your best bet: quit. Within 72 hours your bronchial tubes will expand and your lung volume will increase. The risk of heart disease associated with smoking plummets by half after one year of remaining smoke-free and to the same rate as someone who has never smoked in 10 to 15 years. Your pharmacist can provide detailed counseling on the selection and use of the newer smoking cessation aids.

Sweet News: Diabetes can be managed to minimize complications

One in 20 Canadians currently has diabetes. But what is really frightening, according to the Canadian Diabetes Association, is that some 750,000 of those people do not even know they have it. "Some people only discover they have diabetes when complications set in," asserts Dr. Phil Hordern, director of the West Edmonton Diabetes Clinic. "By then much of the damage has been done."

Normally the food we eat is converted to glucose, which is then stored or used by our bodies with the help of the hormone insulin. But with people who have diabetes, something in the process goes wrong. In Type 1 diabetes—which generally strikes children after a bout of illness—it starts down and without regular doses of insulin they will die. In the case of Type 2 diabetes—also called adult-onset diabetes—the pancreas gives out slowly or the body's cells lose their sensitivity to insulin. This is the most common form of the disease, accounting for about 90 percent of all cases. Finally, gestational diabetes develops in one in 20 pregnant women and usually disappears after the birth of a child. About 40 percent of women who have had gestational diabetes will develop Type 2 diabetes later in life.

The complications of diabetes are nothing to sniff at. People with diabetes are three to six times more likely to develop heart disease. As well diabetes is a leading

"The diagnosis can be very positive. People can develop much better habits and get themselves healthier than before they discovered they had diabetes."

While some people with diabetes may



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have to take medication, lifestyle changes can go a long way toward minimizing complications. Fully 89 per cent of people with diabetes have one or more risk factors over which they have control, points out the Canadian Diabetes Association, including smoking, obesity and hypertension. Hordern recommends that patients get some exercise every day. Not only does it help control weight, he says, "but the muscles take up the glucose and become more sensitive in the action of insulin." Adopting a healthy diet is also a crucial weapon against diabetes.

ARE YOU AT RISK?

- You are particularly at risk of adult onset or Type 2 diabetes if you are 45 or older, overweight and out of shape. In fact, 80 per cent of people with Type 2 diabetes are overweight.
- Having a relative who had diabetes increases your risk of developing the disease, and if you had gestational diabetes during pregnancy, had frequent miscarriages, delivered prematurely, or gave birth to a child weighing nine-plus pounds, you are more prone to developing the disease.
- If you are of African, Hispanic or Aboriginal descent, you're more likely to develop diabetes. The rate of diabetes amongst First Nation Canadians, for example, is three to five times higher than for the rest of the population.

DIET KEY IN CONTROLLING DIABETES

The Canadian Diabetes Association recommends a diet high in complex carbohydrates, fibre and fresh foods and low in fat. Here are some tips on how to break your diet to help control or ward off diabetes:

• Avoid fried foods throughout the day, advises Hordern of the West Edmonton Diabetes Clinic. "No more skipping breakfast and lunch and then picking up at supper."

• Boost fibre intake with plenty of raw and cooked vegetables, fresh and dried fruits, cereals and legumes.

• Limit fat—which makes the action of insulin difficult—by choosing lean meat;

avoiding creamy soups and gravy; and opting for low-fat salad dressings and dairy products.

• If you want a snack? Try fruit wedges or vegetables with low-fat yogurt or dips, unsalted and popped popcorn; a cheese sandwich, or cereal.

• Keep alcohol intake to a minimum, recommends Hordern. "No more than an hour or two a day." ■



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THE RED FLAGS OF DIABETES

Most people have diabetes for some six years before they even realize it. And yet, the sooner you recognize that you have the disease, the more likely you can avoid some of its more unpleasant complications. If you have one or more of these symptoms, see your doctor immediately.

- Numbness and tingling in hands and feet
- Excessive thirst
- Frequent urination
- Irritability
- Weight loss
- Itchy skin
- Changes in appetite
- Frequent headaches
- Wounds that are slow to heal
- Skin infections (e.g. foot fungus, or boils)
- Extreme fatigue
- Erectile dysfunction
- Yeast infections
- Cramping
- Sweet smelling breath

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People

Ace trumpeter

A Canadian trumpet player follows in her heroes' footsteps

Jazz musician Freida Jensen is rarely at home. The North Vancouver native has lived in New York City since 1994, but as one of the most sought-after solo trumpet players on the jazz scene, she is always travelling to clubs and festivals around the world. And the critical success of her just-released third CD, *Higher Grounds*, will likely increase the demand.

Jensen's mother, Karen Corriveau, a retired teacher, raised Jazzy and her two sisters on jazz legends such as Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong instead of watching television. "The absence of TV," says Jensen, 33, "grew us into music for fun." After high school, she studied at the acclaimed Berklee College of Music in Boston. Her big break occurred when, at 25, Jensen became the youngest music professor ever hired at the prestigious Bruckner Conservatory in Linz, Austria.

Following in the footsteps of her heroes Woody Shaw and Miles Davis, Jensen improvises her clear, clean horn lines and earthy, blues sounds. "Improvising is all about respecting your skills and creating the music," she says. "You don't know what's going to happen on stage and that's the beauty of it."



Jensen's third CD, Higher Grounds, is a critical success

Remembering the Romanovs

Although Her Imperial Highness Olga Romanov, the last living child of a Russian czar, died in a tiny apartment over a Toronto beauty salon 35 years ago, the passage of time has made it no easier to write her biography. That was the first thing Toronto author Pauline Phinney found out three years ago when the biographer Olga Romanov, Royal Last Grand Duchess Quarantine descendants and older Russian immigrants "passionate about preserving some positive image of the Romanovs" were among those she encountered in Canada, she says. Phinney ran into an entirely different set of problems when she shifted her focus to Russia. Unable to visit the country because of the war—the financial research with her earnings as a law clerk—the had to use cash for translation and other expenses she had never met. Not only



Phinney's a Cinderella story in reverse

did one \$1,500 payment disappear without a trace from the chaotic Russian banking system, but "I had to tell all the authors in Russia," she says ruefully.

But despite the obstacles, Phinney unearthed an extraordinary tale, one she calls "a Cinderella story in reverse." Born in 1882, the Grand Duchess Olga was in the Crimea in 1918 when her brother, Czar Nicholas II, and his immediate family were killed by Bolshevik revolutionaries. After a harrowing two-year journey, she made it safely out of Russia, flew to Denmark and then, 30 years later, to Canada. The grand duchess and her family, husband Nikolai Kulikovsky and their sons, Tiberius and Gari, eventually settled for awhile in a modest house just west of Toronto. While Olga sold watercolours and oil paintings—her value determined primarily by their signature, Phinney says—a friend hooked her into selling her jewelry at society gatherings in Toronto's tonier neighbourhoods. "She used to go to parties with the jewels in a velvet cloth and sell them out," marvels Phinney. "It was like a Roseville Teppermeyer party."



Business

As the long-distance brand celebrates a mega-merger in the United States, executives at its counterpart in Canada fight to keep their jobs alive

SprintCanada on hold

By Darryl Hawleskis

WILLIAM EBY, the chief executive of Sprint Corp., was taking his horse—"in the middle of Colorado in the middle of nowhere"—when he got a call on his satellite-linked phone from Bernard Ebbers, the Edison-born billionaire who heads MCI WorldCom Inc. Executives at the two U.S. telecommunications giants had been talking merger and Ebbers, a big man with a folksy manner, called Eby to see whether he could close the deal. At a news conference last week to announce the biggest corporate merger in history, Eby and Ebbers joked about the satellite phone's poor sound quality. "I thought he agreed to a lot lower number than he did," said Ebbers.

Amid the static, the pair came to terms on the \$170-billion union of Clinton, Miss.-based MCI WorldCom and Sprint of Wheaton, Md., respectively the second- and third-largest long-distance carriers in the United States. The new company, to be known as WorldCom, will control 37 per cent of the U.S. long-distance market, second only to New York City-based AT&T Corp.'s 43 per cent. While the deal may dent regulatory hurdles, many industry analysts think it will go through, Ebbers had no choice but to make a deal like this one, says Eamon Hoey, a Toronto-based telecommunications expert. Today's big telcos firms are all jockeying to provide the world's 50,000 largest corporations with a combination of local, long-distance, Internet, wireless and data services. "What they're changing," says Hoey, "is 50,000 customers that equate to one quarter of the world's traffic."

At the Sprint branch Canadian counterpart, the future is a lot less certain. In fact, for Call-Net Enterprises Inc. of Toronto, the WorldCom deal could not have come at a worse time. Sprint in the United States owns 20 per cent of Call-Net, which owns and operates Sprint Canada Inc. under a licensing agreement with the U.S. company. Because of the U.S. merger discussions, Sprint's talks on a new branding and technology agreement with Call-Net were put off. The current deal, which allows the Canadian firm to use the Sprint name, expires in 2003.

There are complex questions about who will own and who will run the troubled Call-Net, which is more than \$2 billion in debt. Last week, Bethesda, Md.-based BCTel Communications Inc. expressed interest in buying all or some of the firm. But Call-Net's directors may not be around to explore that option: they are on the verge of losing their jobs. Had the board talks with Sprint been completed, Call-Net's management team could have triggered a deal at a pivotal shareholders' meeting in Toronto this Thursday. Crescendo Partners LP of New York, which represents a dissident group of shareholders, called the meeting with the express purpose

of ousting six of nine Call-Net directors, including CEO Jim Koor, and voted to sell the company whole or in parts. Koor told *Maclean's* that he continues to believe in Sprint Canada's business plan, which includes the current branch of local phone service across the country. Koor also said negotiations on the use of the board name should resolve soon and that relations with Sprint are very good. "There is no reason," he says, "why those good relationships won't continue."

Call-Net's problems began to escalate in June of last year, when the company bought Montreal-based Fonotek Inc. for \$1.8 billion. Some analysts think Call-Net paid far too much for Fonotek, which had a national telecommunications network and another in the United States. Analyst Ian Angus contends that Call-Net also botched the integration of the firms by firing key Fonotek executives before Call-Net managers had a chance to learn the business. That's why, wrote what, a month later, Sprint Canada launched the first nationwide flat-rate long-distance plan. Customer response overwhelmed the company's equipment and forced Call-Net to cap calls at 800 minutes a month for \$30. With such real Bell Canada and other companies matching those bargaining terms, profit margins were crushed.

The fiscal year ended with Call-Net posting a 1998 loss of \$236.7 million, followed by 1999 quarterly losses of \$65.7 million and \$125 million. Between Aug. 3, 1998, and Aug. 3 this year, the price of its voting shares dropped from \$23.10 to just \$7.35, a loss of almost 70 per cent. Last week, the stock closed at \$9.60, amid speculation of an imminent sale.

In the wake of Call-Net's handle for survival, in Crescendo, the Park Avenue venture fund headed by hedge-fund specialist Eric Rosenthal. Late June, he began buying company shares

and by mid-September, having paid an average of about \$10 a share, held almost 10 per cent of Call-Net's voting stock. That stake enabled Crescendo to call this week's shareholder vote—and Rosenthal says he has majority support to oust most of the current managers and replace them with a new team, including former Rogers Communications Inc. executive Colin Watson as chairman. "If you look at the consolidation in the industry," says Rosenthal, "you see that there are companies far larger than Call-Net—Sprint in the U.S. is a good example—that feel they need to be part of another company."

Rosenthal, who last May successfully got rid of Spar Aerospace Ltd.'s board and is looking to dismember that company, was also the one to reveal that BCTel was interested in buying part or all of Call-Net. Call-Net chairman Lawrence Tapp said in a statement that the company was willing to discuss BCTel's proposal before the shareholders' meeting. Midway through the session, though, was the turn to shareholders that said: "Steppin' out, this is not the right time to sell." For its part, one of Call-Net's many concerns is that Rosenthal—having bought at a low price—would decide for a lot less than the firm is worth. Some analysts agree, and Hoey advises investors to hang on to the stock to see whether WorldCom injects some capital into Call-Net.

The *Institutional Shareholder Services*, a voting advisory service in Canada, last week recommended that institutional investors, mutual fund managers and other shareholders vote against Crescendo's proposal. Sprint Corp. also threw its support behind Call-Net's management. "That's an important statement," says Angus. "It could mean that if the company is sold the support of Sprint would go with it.

This would make the company worth much less in the marketplace."

Call-Net is in a position where it either has to strike a deal with a silicon-like BCTel or gain enough shareholder support to win the vote at this week's meeting. If Crescendo carries the day, Rosenthal will sell. How much he would get for Call-Net, however, will depend on whether he can persuade Sprint to continue its branding agreement. At the news conference to announce the WorldCom deal, Ebbers said to visitors the Sprint and MCI brands, but added: "We haven't had a lot of time to talk with our marketing department about how to deploy or use these names effectively." Until several questions are answered, Call-Net's future remains on hold. ■





A new bid on the tarmac?

Air Canada talks up a proposal with its partners, while the big banks choose sides in the airline war

By Kimberley Noble

For almost 24 hours, it looked like this might be the bid everyone had been waiting for. On Oct. 3, a Chicago newspaper reported that Air Canada's U.S. and German marketing partners were on the verge of announcing an offer to buy part of the Montreal-based air carrier. UAL Corp., owner of United Airlines and Deutsche Lufthansa AG were in talks with Air Canada. The report said they planned to team up with the Bank of Montreal to acquire a 35-per-cent stake, and that the move could be made public as early as Monday morning. Finally, it looked as if Air Canada and the Star Alliance partnership would give archrival Canadian Airlines International Ltd. of Calgary and its would-

be founders a run for their money.

Then came Monday morning, drawn out without a concrete counteroffer. It turned out there would be no announcement last week. Instead, Air Canada officials made vague statements about talks with "several third parties." Air Canada president and chief executive Robert Milner frustrated the week still waiting to unveil a counterproposal that will top Toronto-based Onex Corp.'s offer to merge it and Canadian. The new bid, Milner said, would not violate restrictions on foreign and individual ownership of Air Canada.

How Air Canada would pull that off, no one seems to know. "I've had no success in ascertaining what they're planning to do," says Ben Healy of Toronto-based Strategic Analysis Corp. "But

then, I'm not sure that they have either." Last week's evasions mean that either Air Canada's management has something dazzling to reveal and is waiting to pull the rug out from under Onex president Gerry Schwartz, or that it is calling in the hope that something will materialize before its shareholders vote on the Onex merger offer at a Nov. 8 meeting.

Schwartz did some of his own tap-dancing late in the week, attacking "ridiculous" comparisons on jobs, regional services and ticket prices to Onex's proposal. He presented the federal government that a merged airline would limit price increases for five years to the rate of inflation and uncontrollable costs (such as fuel); maintain service to small communities for the same length of time; use layouts only as a final resort; and continue to hold seat sales and honour frequent-flyer points.

This is what Ottawa has been waiting to hear. But what about shareholders? The so-called phantom Air Canada of

It provides a glimpse of how the airline battle is dividing the Canadian investment community. By now, just about every significant financial or legal firm is involved, either working for Onex or Air Canada—or independently for both. Heading towards a potential lifeline are two financial powerhouses—the Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Montreal. The intriguing dynamic is that these two wanted to unite and create a enormous Canadian bank in last year's body count, and subsequently successful, bank merger debate.

Until last week, the Royal was the most closely scrutinized of the major financial players in the airline debate—because it is the biggest domestic commercial lender to cash-strapped Canadians. The Royal has a lot to lose if the airline goes belly-up. The exact amount of its exposure is confidential, but it is said to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

The battle came under fire in early September over a potential conflict when Royal Bank Investment Management Inc., the arm that handles private money management including mutual funds, joined Onex in asking in Ontario court to move the date of the Air Canada shareholder meeting from November to January. But RIMM officials insist their actions were not influenced by the bank. Mike Edwards, RIMM's chairman, told *Markets* that Air Canada shareholders should be able to vote on any offer during the time frame Onex has provided. "This in no way indicates support for or against the One deal," he says.

RBC Dominion Securities Inc., the bank's investment brokerage arm, is also working as strategic adviser to Canadian. Ironically, RBC DS started out as Air Canada's lead underwriter when shares in the Crown corporation were first sold to public investors in 1988 and still handles some of its financing. But Air Canada has grown close to the Bank of Montreal's Neilson Burns Inc.—as strategic adviser—ever since the investment house underwrote \$500 million worth of the company's shares and debentures in 1995. The airline spreads its banking business around as much as possible. On the commercial side, Air

Canada relies mainly on the Bank of Nova Scotia and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce—the former a bit of a problem because Schwartz, a close friend of Scotiabank chairman Peter Godsoe, is on the bank's board.

Other than through Nestor, the Bank of Montreal has not been a major player in the airline business—despite

the fact that Air Canada chairman Jack Pfeifer is on the bank's board. BMO's potential involvement in a new bid would change that. Sources close to the negotiations are cautious, but point out that the Bank of Montreal is determined to expand its almost invisible intershare banking operation—and that this unit is capable of buying a large

Connecting flight paths

On the face of it, Air Canada and its backers are in a bind to thwart Onex Corp.'s proposal to merge the carrier with Canadian Airlines. But in the small worlds of the airline industry and Canadian finance, options may not be as open as they seem. A peek at some of the players:



Air Canada



Canadian Airlines-Onex

Sources say the Bank of Montreal may be prepared to join forces with Air Canada, Lufthansa and United Airlines in a bid to merge the carrier with Canadian Airlines.

Onex sold 47 per cent of Sky Chef, an eight-catering service, to Lufthansa.

Onex president Gerry Schwartz is an acquaintance of Bank of Montreal chairman Harry Cooper and a friend of Jack Pfeifer, chairman of Air Canada's board.



Gerry Schwartz, Onex president, Peter and Heather Burns' chief executive officer and Heather Burns' financial advisor.

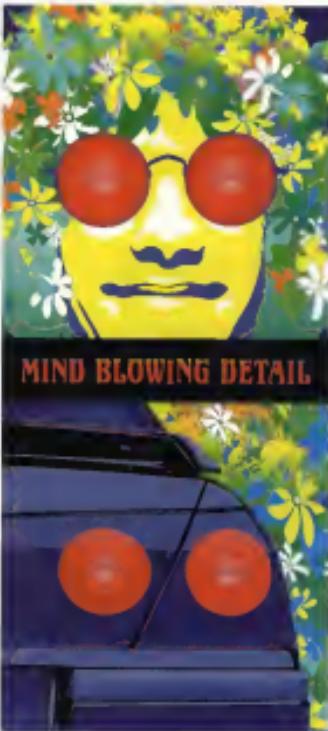
Schwartz and his wife, Heather Reisman, are close friends of Harry Cooper; Neilson Burns' chief executive, Reisman recently hosted a book launch for Cooper.

An Onex recently announced it is pulling its employee share-ownership plan away from the Royal Bank's trust division.

Royal Bank Investment Management's mutual fund armors own a big piece of Air Canada's equity. RIMM supported Onex's call for Air Canada shareholders to vote on its merger proposal.

The Bank of Nova Scotia is one of Air Canada's two main backers.

Peter Godsoe, Scotiabank chairman, is a good friend of Schwartz, who sits on the bank's board.



The new Impala gives a nod to the past in details like the round tail-lights, a trademark since the '60s. With a price starting at \$14,489, it also gives you good old-fashioned value. But all four tires are firmly planted in the future. Today's technology is put to advantage in several smart features. For example, a discrete LCD provides a continuous flow of information relative to

the Impala's operating condition. Other lots of engineering may go unnoticed by all but the most enthusiastic Impala fans. But you will notice the results in the tranquility and comfort of the spacious interior and the efficient performance of the V6 engine. Being a really new car, there is a lot to say about the new Impala, including a long list of standard features. You can explore it for yourself at www.chevrolet.com; or, if that's not your style, you can always call 1-800-GM-DRIVE for more information.

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equity stake in Air Canada. If that were to happen, BMO would make Canadian banking history—and might prevent the real Royal Bank from scooping the money-laundering Canadians.

From the outside, the "phantom" had appeared to involve Air Canada's Class A non-voting shares, which could be issued or sold to United, Lufthansa and the bank without violating ownership rules. This makes analysts question whether a serious competitor is in the works. "Are they buying shares?" asks Healy. "From whom? Existing shareholders? Treasury? Is this a delisting? Or an injection of new capital? If that's all they are doing," he says, "it really amounts to nothing except a big underwriting."

But, from the Bank of Montreal's point of view, even if the proposal will be no more than a restructure at the back of the Class A non-voting share, it would still involve an outlay of \$100 million—large by the chartered banks' standards. A potential political factor is that pension fund manager Caisse de dépôt et placements du Québec owns just under 30 per cent of these shares, which it could sell to Air Canada allies to help block an Oneworld deal.

Money managers say that such shareholder activity will be bettered than what's on the table. The investment community has come to accept Oneworld's argument that an offer is not worth only \$8.25 as Air Canada, thus far between \$10 and \$12, after taking into consideration that those shareholders would opt for a package of cash and stock. From the purely financial point of view, analysts say a deal could be done tomorrow for a confirmed offer that was the equivalent of \$15 per Air Canada share.

With the Bank of Montreal in camp, Air Canada may have finally found a source of money. On the Nasdaq, rates may just have peaked in temporarily to stop Oneworld and its partner ABF Corp., the Texas-based parent of American Airlines, from getting control of Canada's biggest airline. What happens next will depend on United and Lufthansa, observers say. "It's conceivable that they will bid for this from people," says an industry insider. "I just don't know which taking them so long." Milton and the Air Canada board may be keeping their powder dry just until before the court-ordered Nov. 8 vote on the Oneworld deal. Or Air Canada, the insider says, "will sell some assets and suddenly go into protection"—and Oneworld will be left out in the cold and Canadian will be back in the soup. ■

Carty: Don't 'disarm' Canada

At 53, Montreal-born American Airlines CEO Don Carty is a veteran of two wars on both sides of the border, with experience at both Air Canada and Canadian Pacific Air Lines, the forerunner of Canadian Airlines. During a business trip to his home town last week, he talked with National Affairs Columnist Anthony Wilson-Smith about air war, his airline's role and the industry's future.



Maclean's American Airlines is investing a great deal of time and money in its partnership with Canadian Airlines. What are the attractions?

Carty: First, Canada itself. There is an enormous and growing amount of cross-border traffic. Second, the access we gain to Vancouver—it is the ideal West Coast gateway from North America to Asia. As well, we don't really have a hub for traffic to Europe east of Chicago, and Toronto goes at that.

Maclean's Does Oneworld's proposal at which American Airlines might decide the Canadian air user has become too problematic to justify putting in any further energy and money?

Carty: Of course, you can come to an economic point where either alternative is poison to

form makes more sense, or else you simply do nothing more. Maclean's How does one get to that?

Carty: I have a lot of faith in [Oneworld president] Gerry Schwartz and the solutions he proposes. We have been friends for many years and our trust is unshakable. You don't get involved in a proposal of this magnitude unless you think of many cases. Maclean's I think there are many and often expensive things that can be avoided, even if the Oneworld deal is successful.

Carty: It wasn't intended to be unfriendly, and I still believe Air Canada would do well to reflect more carefully on the offer as good for both sides. I have a great deal of respect for [Air Canada CEO] Robert Milson, and in earlier talks some months ago, I felt the potential caused for things to move amicably.

Maclean's Gerry Schwartz has suggested American carriers should be given access to the Canadian domestic market, as long as the same is done in return. Is that a viable option?

Carty: There's no movement in the United States for that idea right now. And given that, it would be move for Canada to uniformly disarm itself.

Maclean's Is Canada big enough to support two national airlines in their present form?

Carty: I would not sleep well and thus—especially since I have worked for both Air Canada and Canadian—but the answer is no. The choice has now made itself clear: Canada can have two money-losing international airlines functioning at far below capacity, or it is capable of producing one truly great carrier. Both are losing money. Air Canada stock was above \$8 a share in 1988, when it was privatized. When Oneworld began its play, the stock was at about \$5. You would have been better off buying your lottery in a sack 11 years ago.

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Deirdre McMurdy

A man tells his friend that he plans to sell his old car for \$1,000. The friend is openly skeptical. When he next comes into the room, he asks how the proposed sale proceeded. "Great," says his buddy. "I traded my dog for two \$500 cars."

The anecdote may be witty and simplistic, but it is probably the best way to account for the risk of such premiums awarded in recent corporate takeovers. It seems that asset value—like beauty—is in the eye of the beholder.

Last week brought another spectacular display of top-dollar margins and sequaciousness. Bell Canada bid almost half a billion dollars for Alberta Tel. BCTel Communications Inc. made its first overture to Call-Net Enterprises Inc. Shell Canada Ltd. unloaded \$770 million in assets from Apache Canada Ltd. In the United States, the largest radio broadcaster combined. And TV Guide Inc. was added to a high-tech sentence, revenues for tomorrow. Even low-fliers caught the big. Tony Tevy DesLauriers & Bourassa of Toronto joined forces with Haynes & Casley of New York.

Croningual of these deals was the largest ever done. NCL Worldwide Inc.'s \$170-billion purchase of Spain Corp., in a bidding war with rival telco giant BellSouth. At week's end, however, BellSouth was already making eyes at another takeover target, Global Crossing Ltd., an Internet and long-distance provider.

The high dollar value of these deals is partially justified by their perceived strategic significance: larger market share, access to new technology. Indeed, extension Ken Nickerson, general manager of Microsoft Network Canada, explains that his company has recently been growing through relatively costly acquisitions because, in a highly competitive business, it's fast and it deepest Microsoft's existing pool of talent.

Another reason why so many firms are posturing now is the extended bull market for equities. A great number of deals are based on stock swaps, which can relatively painless for shareholders—as long as prices continue to escalate.

Last month, U.S. regulators proposed tightening the rules for the way that companies account for mergers and acquisitions on their balance sheets. But in all the number-crunching and calculation, there is almost no accounting for the human cost of these splashy transactions. Yet, there are the hidden costs that will ultimately decide whether these deals ever achieve their paper potential.

Once the headlines fade, the integration process begins. And it can reveal several profound flaws in the projected benefits. Germany's Daimler is only now struggling to come to terms with the cultural differences and management incompat-

ability of its Chrysler partner. Similarly, 12 months after Textron Group Inc. and Cessna merged, the fusioneer that "co-CEO" could run the merged company has been chartered ABC and Walt Disney Co. are still struggling to make their lag-o-later merger work.

But the real consequences of the merger and acquisition frenzy are borne by workers and middle managers. Mergers, however soothing the initial assurances, mean layoffs and budget cuts. And many senior executives are about to face a steep new cost for proceeding too aggressively with their corporate agenda.

Classic uncertainty and anxiety have contributed to a resurgence in union militancy. Auto workers in Canada and the United States are leading the charge. But even the whiny solar high-sach types at IBM are rallying, as their pension plans have been threatened by cutbacks.

A sense of worker solidarity is also being spurred by the growing financial disparity between labour and management. Recent data collected by United for a Fair Economy, a Boston-based think-tank, shows that widespread use of stock options means that, on average, the ratio of top executive to worker compensation is now 419 to 1. That's up from 42 to 1 in 1980. The widening gap between the two, along with second-quarter profits, have fanned a feeling of entitlement and resentment among the rank and file.

These dynamics converged last week in the negotiations between the Canadian Auto Workers and Daimler-Benz. Although the CAW did not succeed with its demand that the company urge Magna International Inc., one of its suppliers, to unionize, it did make remarkable progress in establishing the radical precedent. Unite leader Bob Hargrave astutely managed to keep the issue on the table throughout negotiations—and provide serious public debate about its viability. In geopolitics, a great hue and cry often erupts whenever a third party deliberately interferes with an established bilateral relationship. In Canada, it occurs—and causes an indignant uproar—every time a French dignitary makes a public declaration endorsing sovereignty for Quebec.

The CAW is using that tactic in asking the Big Three carmakers to compel its certification as independent public companies like Magna. They lost because they pushed too far, too fast. But, like it or not, similar demands will surface again—in the auto industry and in other sectors. Unions are regaining their influence and making it clear that they intend to extend their grasp beyond the traditional issues of wages and pensions. That's yet another corporate cost that has not been accounted for.

Discovering hidden costs



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A wrench in the works

Quebec Finance Minister Bernard Landry is asking the country's major stock exchanges to reopen the deal they struck in March and leave the Montreal Exchange open to trade in corporate worth up to \$500 million. Quebec's long-term economic interest demands "a real stock exchange" in Montreal, Landry said, notwithstanding one focused on the derivatives market as envisioned in the reorganization plan put forward by the Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver exchanges.

Last call

With beer consumption—and retailer share—on the decline, Molson Inc. is racking off the caps at one of its two Ontario breweries, putting 414 people out of work in Barrie. The company plans to invest \$100 million in its other Ontario plant in Toronto. The closure follows the layoff of 287 managers and mid-level staff last month.

Long-distance ownership

Bell Canada says it is willing to pay \$427 million for majority ownership of Abitibi Inc., the company formed by the merger of the four major phone companies in Atlantic Canada last June. Bell effectively controls Abitibi already, with 61 per cent of its shares. Full ownership would consolidate Bell's network east of Manitoba.

Strategic withdrawal

Shell Canada Ltd. is selling oil and gas fields worth \$770 million to independent producer Apache Corp. of Houston, continuing the trend of Big Oil withdrawing from conventional oil extraction in Western Canada. Shell says it wants to focus on Alberta's oil sands and offshore activity such as the Sakhalin gas project off the East Coast.

Shopping Calvin

Calvin Klein Inc., the edgy American fashion label with the posy ads, is looking for a partner to help it open more of its own stores. The Klein empire, a \$3.7-billion empire of accessories, undergarments and sportswear, has hired New York investment bankers Lazard Frères & Co. to play corporate matchmaker.

Hargrove's bluff called

The Canadian Auto Workers reached a tentative deal with DaimlerChrysler Canada last week after locking down on a controversial demand that the auto industry's pension funds make a bid to acquire a Magna International Inc.-auto-parts plant CAW president Bob Hargrove had threatened a strike unless DaimlerChrysler gave Magna to recognize certification at a Windsor, Ont., plant—if a count showed that more than 50 per cent of workers there had signed union cards. As the strike deadline loomed, Jim Holden, president of DaimlerChrysler's North America operation, called Hargrove to say that the company could not tell Magna how to



DaimlerChrysler vice-chairman Kenneth McCarter (left) and Hargrove dropping the Magna issue

run its business. Some of the 14,000 DaimlerChrysler CAW members also objected to making one Magna. Hargrove dropped the issue, admitting he had used a negotiating tactic and that "I got clipped a bit." The tentative pact provides for pay increases of 4.5 per cent a year over three years, plus bonus payments. Hargrove warned General Motors not to assume he will be bluffing in the next round.

Scars keeps the Eaton's name alive

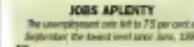
Scars Canada said it will pay \$30 million for five Eaton's stores including the flagship Toronto Eaton Centre site and in downtown Vancouver, Victoria and Calgary, as well as in suburban Winnipeg. The stores will bear the Eaton's name, said Sean chairman Paul Walker. Scars intends to retain Eaton's as its name as a full-line department store, moving away from its emphasis on high-end fashion. A rebranding is expected in mid-2000. Meanwhile, Eaton's said it would pay unsecured creditors about half of the \$300 million they are owed.

Financial outlook

Strong employment gains, particularly in the manufacturing and construction sectors, helped to push the jobless rate down to 7.5 per cent in

September, Statistics Canada reported. The last time unemployment was this low was in June, 1990. In total, 64,000 new jobs were created in September; all full time, StatsCan said. Since last year, manufacturing employment has grown by 9.5 per cent, with the largest gains in computers and electronics. Women were the beneficiaries of almost two-thirds of the new jobs.

"With the Canadian economy experiencing strong and broadly based growth, job creation is likely to continue at a healthy clip in the months ahead," said Marc Lévesque, a senior economist at TD Economics.





Ross Laver

Post traumatic syndrome

OK, so it doesn't neatly rank us one of this country's greatest social iniquities. But the more I scan its pages, the more I'm convinced that Conrad Black's *National Post* is giving small-c conservatives and laissez-faire capitalists a bad name.

It's safe to say that many Canadians would consider that a good thing. Personally, though, I'm in favour of lower taxes, less government intervention and free trade. If just that the *Post* meetings too often go over the edge. (Surely no other daily in North America publishes at many approving references to libertarians sometime *Ayn Rand*. Were she still alive today, there'd be doubt the paper would be blocking the Russian-born Rand as founding leader of the United Alternatives.)

At issue, the *Post's* pervasive editorial bias produces stories that are downright loopy. A case in point was last month's bizarre coverage of Adrienne Clarkson's appointment as Governor General. "Activists to move into Rideau Hall," the page 1 headline blared, as though the paper had uncovered a plot by Marxist guerrillas to storm the Bank of Canada. Inside, two full pages of stories avoided mentioning Clarkson's avoidable activist past, describing her as a "well-known supporter" of women's rights, the anti-free-trade movement—and—boomer—publicly funded schools. (Quick, somebody inform the Canadian Security Intelligence Service? That they lead editorial thundered that Clarkson would be "a Governor General for half the country" and was by nature "highly partisan" and loaded down with "ideological baggage.")

Hmm. A bit too much caffeine in your coffee, sir?

All right, so it's true that Clarkson's policies aren't everybody's thing. But really, who cares? The Governor General, in case anyone has forgotten, works about as much political influence in this country as McDonald's does. Maybe even less. Instead of dinging all over Clarkson's appointment, right-wingers really should be celebrating her now-official irrelevance. If she's any place in Canada where a left-leaning, unconnected economic nationalist can do no harm, Rideau Hall is it. The time we have to fear is that she'll dip into the federal budget surplus to buy new chairs and curtains—a small price to pay, it could be argued, for convincing the socialist, pro-public-school thorax.



Clarkson: a notorious supporter of public schools

Another example of *Post* weirdness was a recent front-page article on the "shocking mass stampede" of Canadian investors of domestic stocks

based mutual funds, and the rising popularity of funds that track foreign stocks. A number of publications, including *Maclean's*, have reported on that trend, which surfaced last year and has since gathered speed. In the first eight months of 1999, net new sales of foreign equity funds were \$8.3 billion, more than half the total sales for the entire industry. Meanwhile, demand for domestic stocks has collapsed. Since January, \$75 million has flowed out of Canadian equity funds, a running record from the same period last year when investors put \$7.1 billion into domestic stock funds.

The bizarre thing about the *Post* story was the conclusion it drew. Rounding up the usual suspects—a fund industry spokesman, the director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, a Tory MP and a Reform—the newspaper suggested that the flight from domestic stocks was an indictment of the fiddling Liberal government and proof that Canadians are "young with short wallets against an underperforming economy hampered by high taxes" and low productivity. "Investment dollars are very sensitive," taxpayer federation head Wales Robertson was quoted as saying. "They move quickly, and if they don't like what they see, they move somewhere else."

Well, yes, but I suspect even the *Post*中华人会的编辑部 is impotent to respond to the behaviour of most mutual fund investors. Sure, it's fun to blame high taxes—heh, if it causes the government to move faster on that front, I'm all in favor—but it's obvious no mere investment guru that uses has nothing to do with the recent switch from domestic to foreign funds. Instead, investors are responding to the fact that for several years, Canadian stocks have badly underperformed U.S. and other foreign markets. In typical, lemming-like fashion, they are now buying into last year's hot market, and paying dearly for the privilege.

Meanwhile, guess what's happening here at home? The Canadian stock market is enjoying one of its best years this decade, with returns, in Canadian dollar terms, far exceeding the U.S. S&P500 Standard & Poor's 500 index.

Oddly enough, the *Post's* front-page story left that part out

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Playing for the love of the game

Underfunded Canadians take on rugby's top pros

Gareth Rees may well be the least-known famous person in Canada. The Victoria native has partied with the King of Tonga, visto any Queen Elizabeth II ("She's very nice") and last week was introduced to French President Jacques Chirac at a reception in Biarritz, France. And when Prince Michael of Kent proposed Canada House in London last year, Rees was among celebrities such as singer Bryan Adams and actor Paul Gross who were invited to toast the doodling monarch as a gesture of good will. Yet few in Canada knew that Rees, 32, is a captain of the national rugby team, an international star and the first man to compete in four straight Rugby World Cups. Even this week, playing in the current Cup being staged in France and Wales, an event expected to draw a worldwide TV audience of three billion, Rees and his teammates are mostly strangers to their own land. "It's funny," he said from the team hotel in Bourgogne Lake. "We don't get much recognition in Canada, but some of us are household names over here."

Rugby Canada wants to change that. In fact, it is desperately trying to pique current interest in the Rugby World Cup, being shown on CTV Sportsnet, with corporate sponsorship to support a tour known more for courage and sacrifice than finesse and depth. But spectators are hard to come by in a marketplace that prefers management-promotional sports, and last week, team officials insisted they needed to make it at least into the quarter-final stage of the playoffs—a task made unlikely by two loss-round losses and a nagging thigh injury to Rees—to convince corporate

camp with the nearly \$250,000 per man that England is promising just in bonuses for a Cup triumph. By contrast, Canadian sponsors telecommunication equipment manufacturer Newbridge Networks, has pledged a total of \$50,000 to \$170,000 in bonuses, depending on the route, to be split among the 90 Canadian players and team officials.

Although a dozen of Canadian 30 players are professionals in Europe and Japan, the rest either fit travel and training time into their regular job schedules, or quit work altogether and lean on family for support. Come Sept. 24, Bryn, 31, is on an extended leave from his job as in-house lawyer for Maritime One-based Star Data Systems. "Fortunately," Bryn said, "the people I report to have an athlete background, and they have been very understanding." Playing a nephrologist with the kidney disease unit at Memorial University in St. John's, Nfld., also made an colleague's generosity during the 10 weeks he has taken off this year. "I am resigning from the team after this," he said last week. "I would need to take off as much time next year, and I can't do that anymore."

Whatever happens in Canada, Rees will likely remain in England even after the tour. Before signing last summer with another English league team, Bedford, he served for London Wasps and played championship games before nearly \$40,000 naming rights at Twickenham Stadium—a far cry from the handful who turn out for national men games at Thunderbird Stadium in Vancouver. In London, his status among the grass of the game seems sponsor, speaking engagements and job offers. But he hopes the legacy of the current World Cup will strengthen the sport back home. "These guys give everything," he says. "They deserve support."

James Deacon



Bryne clearing against France: make or break

Canada to open its wallet. "This is resale or break for us," Canadian coach Pat Farley said bluntly.

Their desperation stems from the fact that, since 1995, when most of the rugby world turned professional, countries with well-financed leagues and programs began paying players to train and play year-round. That widened the financial gap between the powers, including England, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, and second-tier countries such as Canada, Fiji and Argentina, and that gap will grow further if Rugby Canada cannot find the money to pay its players before the 2003 Cup. Farley says they need to offer a part-time income of at least \$30,000 annually per axis to keep players in competitive form.

That, however, is still well below the \$100,000 a year many contract players of their peers, and a premium



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Education

Carrot or stick?

Back-to-school programs for teenage mothers

When Shannon Hunt found out last year that she was pregnant, it looked like tough times were ahead. For starters, she was only 16. The father was not interested in helping out, and Hunt's mother had no interest in raising care of a child again. The Brantford, Ont., teen was sure of one thing, though, she wanted to go back to school as soon as possible. And last month, she did. Her welfare payments cover a one-bedroom apartment, and a subsidy pays for her seven-month-old daughter's care in a licensed, nonprofit day care run by the grandsons of Pauline Johnson Calligian, where Hunt is finishing her final year of high school. Under a new Ontario program aimed at getting 16- and 17-year-olds back to class, she also receives additional funds for babysitting, clothing and transportation. But that carrot is accompanied by a big stick. If Hunt drops out, she loses her welfare. So far, things are working out well. "We're into more of a routine now and I can study after school goes to bed," says Hunt, now 17. "It's actually so hard to some people and it would be."

Still, the controversial program, announced last March as part of the Ontario government's work-for-welfare policy and expected to be in force across the province by year's end, has left many observers with mixed feelings. Virtually everyone, from social policy experts to social service administrators to academics, applauds the goal: education, they agree, is one of the best ways to ensure self-sufficiency. But the initiative, which will be administered by non-profit agencies, takes a harder hit than a similar scheme in New Brunswick. And many observers express strong reservations about the mandatory nature of the policy, which will apply to about 1,200 teen parents. John Larson, executive director of the Children's Aid Society in London, Ont., says it may help those single parents on welfare who need an extra push to go back to school. "But if you really have to leave on someone," he says, "they may have issues that are better dealt with in other ways, such as counseling."

The policy, which will apply to about 1,200 teen parents. John Larson, executive director of the Children's Aid Society in London, Ont., says it may help those single parents on welfare who need an extra push to go back to school. "But if you really have to leave on someone," he says, "they may have issues that are better dealt with in other ways, such as counseling."



Galloway with Austin: day care is crucial

For those eager to return to school, but who lack support, the LEAP program (the acronym stands for Learning, Learning and Parenting) provides a number of incentives. Participants get to the top of the waiting list for subsidized child care, which can be very long. In addition to ensuring child-care subsidies, they may also receive—as the case may be—up to \$4,500 per parent for such extras as babysitting while they attend the 35 hours of parenting courses that the program also makes mandatory.

Juli Galloway, another LEAP participant in Brantford, says that the program helps improve the image of teen parents. "A lot of people think we do nothing because we are on assistance, and that's not fair," says the 18-year-old mother of Austin. "A lot of us are working really hard."

But critics say the program is a cynical attempt to target a vulnerable group, and that it could lead to unfair consequences. Andrew Mitchell, co-founder of *Welfare Watch*, a grassroots group that monitors welfare reform, says the mandatory component could be used to drive parents off welfare for alleged breaches of its provisions, such as staying home with a sick child. Cheryl Dugay, who has dual custody with her mother at her day-care center in a downtown Toronto secondary school, questions the heavy-handed approach, noting that very few need coaxing back to school. "The real issue is finding a day-care space," says Dugay. "We always have more requests than we can handle."

Despite Galloway's claim that it is time to cut off the mask with the concept, New Brunswick has been running a similar program since 1995. Single parents under 18 who need social assistance receive welfare benefits and a full child-care subsidy on condition they are enrolled in school or a training program. Payments are dramatically reduced—from \$700 to \$300 a month—if any teen parent returns to school. Jane Thomas, director of policy and planning for family resource development in Fredericton, says that all 74 teen parents currently on welfare are in school. But there is a distinct advantage: there are no waiting lists for day care, unlike in Ontario, where there are more than 12,000 waiting for subsidized day care in Toronto alone. "Being a parent in your teens is really hard, and not all of them are emotionally ready for it," says Thomas. "But if they find an opportunity I just can't believe what they do." Credit where credit is due.

Patricia Chisholm



Do we need more doctors?

By John Nicol

The ultimate goal of medicine must be the task of keeping people well rather than just patching them up when they're sick. That means choice.

—Former Saskatchewan premier Tommy Douglas, pioneer of medicare.

In *Kelly, Saskatchewan*, in the heartland of the province where Douglas launched medicare in 1947, nurse practitioner Joanne Berry embodies his vision of a co-centered health system. In a day's work, Perry might treat car accident victims, order lab tests or prescriptions for her patients, answer a question or spend an hour on a physical, talking about how to improve the patient's health. Perry is one of the more than 500 registered nurses across Canada who have taken an extra year's training to enable them to perform many doctor traditionally medical



Perry, patient Darryl Wharf: "The nurse has traditionally been underutilized."

While communities plead for more physicians, there may be better ways to care for patients

for physicians. Since 1995, she has been part of a team of three nurse practitioners and one travelling doctor serving 6,000 people in three farm communities, 200 km southwest of Saskatoon. In contrast, says Perry, he has depended on a willingness to collaborate—the physician must not feel threatened by the nurse's enhanced position. "The nurse has traditionally been underutilized," says Perry. "It doesn't matter who gets the job done; it matters that patients get the care they need."

Across Canada, from rural outposts to the major centres of Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Calgary, community leaders are complaining about a shortage of doctors. Canada, in fact, has had more physicians over the past decade than ever before. But with medical schools and immigration now producing fewer new doctors each year than the

number retiring or leaving the country, many observers see a crisis looming in the near future. The Canadian Medical Forum, made up of the executives of nine national medical associations, calculates that Canada needs to produce 900 more doctors each year to maintain current levels and meet the increasing demands of a growing, aging population. The Canadian Medical Association, the national physicians' body, a loudly lobbying provincial governments to increase the number of students admitted to medical schools each year from 1,500 to 2,000.

But is this the solution? Not according to some of the country's top health policy analysts. While acknowledging that there are doctor shortages in some parts of the country and in some specialties, they say too much emphasis is being placed on the supply of physi-

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Doctors' organizations are ready to discuss new ways of delivering care and getting paid

actually rewards physicians for practices—such as seeing more patients for shorter visits—which may not, in fact, produce the best results.

To many observers, the problem is as much an inefficient use of doctors as it is a shortage. Nationally, the ratio of physicians to population has remained fairly constant through the 1990s—measured last in 1998 at 183 per 100,000 people, up considerably from the 147 of 26 years earlier. But the numbers do not tell the whole story. Small and even medium-sized communities are finding it difficult to attract family physicians. Those who do take the positions often insist on working shorter hours than their predecessors normally did. With half of all medical school graduates now women—who tend to put in fewer hours than male doctors because of family commitments—that trend will likely continue. At well, fewer women are choosing to specialize.

Toronto-based health policy analyst Dr. Michael Rachlis says the system must be changed to encourage physicians to be more productive. A doctor at a walk-in clinic may see 60 patients in a day and take home three times as much money as a family doctor, says Rachlis. But by seeing just 20 patients and giving each more time, a family doctor might provide the type of care that makes patients healthier and reduces the need for them to use the system. "We need to develop a comprehensive plan," says Rachlis. "That means offering alternatives to fee-for-service remuneration. It means encouraging promising rural high-school students to consider medical school, and making our existing doctors go further through the best use of nurses and other professionals."

The governing bodies for Canadian doctors recognize it is time for change. Dr. Peter Newberry, president of the

College of Family Physicians, says that association is considering new payment and service delivery options. "It's not a popular position," says Newberry, himself a salary-paid family doctor in Vancouver, in northern British Columbia, "because a lot of family docs there are used to fee-for-service." With established practices, they have difficulty using the fee-for-charge. "But increasingly," he adds, "young docs graduating from family practice programs are prepared to look for alternative methods of payment, and have been trained to appreciate the skills and abilities of other health-care providers."



So it is back to Douglas's largely fulfilled vision of doctors working in collegial teams with nurses and other professionals, within a system focused on the maintenance of health and the prevention of disease. Slow to get established, this concept may become a necessity. One model is thriving in 150 community health clinics in Quebec and another 100 scattered across the country. Tony Kaufman, executive director of one centre in west Montreal, says they grow from pilot projects across the country as a result of a 1992 study commissioned by the federal government. With general practitioners on salary, the clinics provide a full range of services, starting with a nurse who might direct the patient to another

nurse, a doctor, a dietitian or a social worker. "Using physicians for everything," argues Kaufman, "is expensive as hell, and not always efficient. If we improve co-ordination, we can use the physicians we have much better."

For that reason Kaufman is not convinced there is a doctor shortage. "The question should be How best to deliver primary health care in Canada?" he says. "If you're doing something inefficiently, and asking if we have enough people doing it, you're going about it the wrong way." In Beatty, Sault, Dr. Tracy Macdonald, the physician working with Joanne Perry and the other nurses, understands that concept. While the average caseload for a full-time family physician in Canada is 1,500 patients, Macdonald says he can comfortably provide primary care for twice that many. While the same practitioners take care of many basic services, the relieved physician is free to spend time with patients "doing health promotion" so they don't have to return for unnecessary visits.

The provincial medical associations, which fall under the umbrella of the CMA, have long been regarded as the impediment to change. But Dr. Hugh Scully, president of the CMA, and Macdonald say doctors are

prepared to discuss other models of delivery and new payment schemes. He cautions, however, that doctors must be at the table as discussions begin, and they look forward to co-operating with other health-care professionals as long as physicians have their say in areas where they have "the best expertise."

If nothing else, the shortage debate has led to a greater recognition of fundamental problems, says Rachlis. He is optimistic that what Torsten Douglas considered the final and most difficult step in the implementation of Medicare will be realized across Canada. "If we don't move on to the second stage of medicine—the efficient treatment for patients and fairer treatment of doctors—then," says Rachlis, "we risk losing medicare altogether."

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Law

Medicinal weed

Ottawa approves applications to use marijuana

By Andrew Clark

Comedian Howard Dover came up with the idea for a benefit performance to be called OA, *Overdose*, after his cousin, diagnosed with HIV, began using marijuana to ease his pain. Held last week at the Yuk Yuk's club in Toronto, the stand-up comedy show raised money for two local groups fighting to win the right to use marijuana as a medicine. In comedy, timing is everything, and Dover was impeccable. On the same day, Health Minister Allan Rock announced he was allowing 14 Canadians to use marijuana for medicinal purposes. To the show's comedians, a group not known for their won-drug status, that represented victory. One performer, Craig Campbell, lit a six-inch joint and inhaled deeply. "This," joked the 30-year-old, "is my tribute to the cause."

Rock's announcement clearly established the federal government's support for the use of marijuana to ease symptoms associated with some diseases. It followed Rock's decision in June to enlarge the first two patients—both suffering from AIDS—from prosecution under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. Health Canada officials did not identify the 14 new patients or their ailments. But marijuana advocates say it is effective for a wide range of conditions including AIDS, multiple sclerosis, cancer, chemotherapy side-effects, epilepsy and many more chronic disorders.

Under a procedure established last May, applicants for exemptions must provide a detailed doctor's report along with other information about their condition. The special dispensation allows them to grow marijuana for their own use, but not to buy it or to receive it from a caregiver. The department is considering 80 informal inquiries and 20 more official applications. But many

activists in the fight to legalize medicinal marijuana believe Health Canada's provisions do not go far enough.

Warren S. Huang, director of the Toronto Compassion Centre, one of the Yuk Yuk's benefactors, says about 3,000 chronically ill Canadians use organizations like his to obtain marijuana. "It's a sin," he said of the 16 exemptions, "but what about the rest of the people suffering around the country?" Health Canada counters that it still lacks reliable information about the



Campbell supporting the campaign to legalize marijuana for medical use

medical value of marijuana. "Right now, all we have is anecdotal evidence," says spokesman Derek Kerr.

To address this problem, Rock said, the first Canadian clinical research into the medical benefits of marijuana will begin in Toronto early next year. That will be held in other cities over a period of five years, at a possible cost of \$7.5 million. The Toronto program will involve roughly 250 subjects taking it in research-grade cannabis, distilled—drug containing a synthetic version of the psychoactive agent tetrahydro-

cannabinol—or a placebo. Health Canada has not settled on a source for pure, standardized marijuana. But it will not be cannabis seized by the RCMP; international conventions ban the use of illegal substances for legal reasons, and street drugs may contain fungi, moulds and other contaminants that make them inconsistent in chemical composition and potency.

The exemption process, steadily slow and laborious, may become unmanageable if thousands submit applications. Health Canada wants it to open up the door to legalizing the drug. "This is not about decriminalization," emphasizes Kerr. "This is about providing medical marijuana for those who are sick."

But even as Rock announced the new exemptions, the government's marijuana policy was under attack on another front. In the Ontario Court of Appeal, lawyer Alan Young, a professor at Osgoode Hall Law School, appeared for two Toronto men caught up in a marijuana case. The federal government is appealing an Ontario judge's decision to stay possession charges against Terry Parker, 42, who has used marijuana to control his epileptic seizures. Christopher Clay, 28, a legal activist, is appealing a conviction for possession and trafficking. Ontario, Young argued, does not have the constitutional right to deprive Canadians of marijuana because, he said, it is no more lethally toxic than sugar.

Young also believed that, to fit, only the seriously ill have been granted exemptions. "When the government gives dispensation to those with debilitating illnesses," he said, "then we will see a real change because then you will have tens of thousands of users."

Meanwhile, the comedians are already planning their next benefit. "Fourteen," Dover said on stage. "It's not much, but it's a start." And with a gesture to the marijuana-friendly audience seated at Yuk Yuk's dinner tables, the comedian added, "And I'm guessing that food sales might never be way up." ■

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Law

Contentious crop

Hemp farmers get caught in the war against drugs

On Aug. 9, U.S. Customs Service officials in Denver made their move, seizing 18,000 kg.—of Canadian baled hemp. It was a simple case of zero tolerance. The hemp came from industrial hemp, which—like marijuana—is a variety of the species *Cannabis sativa*. Although it is legal to grow industrial hemp in most of the United States, it has always been legal to import it. On the other hand, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will not allow any substance containing even trace amounts of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychoactive agent in marijuana, into the United States.

So on the DEA's instructions, customs locked the baled up. Caught in the middle are farmers like Jean Laprise, president of Chateaux, Ont.-based Kensec Ltd., the company that grew the hemp and sent it south. If the U.S. axes tolerance policy on industrial hemp continues, he says, the company's future is bleak. "I'll tell you right now," says Laprise, "the world break[s]."

Across Canada, close to 700 farmers have jumped on the hemp bandwagon since Ottawa legalized it as a crop last year for the first time since 1938. With 14,000 hectares already devoted to hemp, they are courting on investors who, like U.S. manufacturers who see the versatile, ecologically friendly plant to produce dozens of products, from shampoo and cooking oil to paper and clothing. Laprise says Kensec, a large farming operation that has invested millions of dollars in new crop, has been shipping hemp to the United States for almost a year. Suddenly, following the bailed seizure and a U.S. Customs administration recalling 17 other Kensec hemp shipments, the company faces \$700,000 in fines and an uncertain future. "The

DEA is trying to destroy whatever Canadian companies it can," says 45-year-old Laprise, "so they can discourage U.S. farmers and companies from manufacturing or selling hemp products."

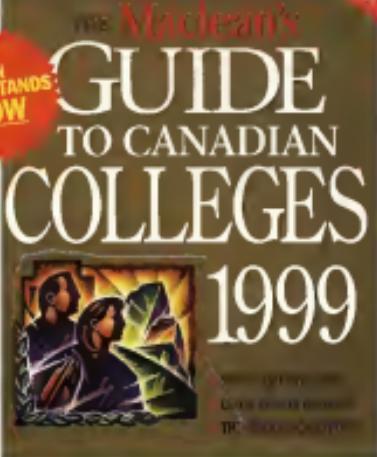
What frustrates Laprise and other growers is that their product has no resale value. The highest THC content of a baled measurable 0.0016 per cent compares with the minimum four per cent—and up to 20 per cent—found in marijuana. The DEA's unexpected decision



Laprise, a legal hemp farmer, 700 producers in books

is to crack down on hemp imports almost a year and a half after the market opened has stunned Canadian farmers and the many American manufacturers of hemp products. Kensec, which has laid off four of its 24 employees since the seizure, is planning to file a claim under the North American Free Trade Agreement, arguing that U.S. officials are interfering with international trade. And a Sebastopol, Calif., company, Native, which uses Canadian hemp to make a popular line of grain oil, says it has lost 400,000 since its supplies were cut off. It and other U.S. manufacturers are contemplating a class-action suit against the U.S.

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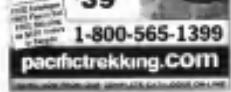
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Law

government to have the DEA back off.

Like Lapine, most of Canada's hemp farmers turned to the plant in the belief it was a durable station crop with a proven market in the United States. "It's not hard to grow," says Erhard Oeten, who planted eight hectares on his farm in Warren, Alta. For Keween, hemp has turned out to be more profitable than many of his traditional crops, including corn, soybean and wheat.

Hemp products have caught on quickly in the United States. Bill Shultz, chairman of the North American Industrial Hemp Council Inc., estimates the industry is worth \$225 million annually. Under constant pressure from U.S. farmers, several states—including Hawaii, North Dakota and Minnesota—have passed laws allowing hemp crops, but Novak's president, John W. Roulac, says the DEA is trying to quash the industry. The agency, he says, is trying to prevent annual funding of millions of dollars for cannabis eradication, 98 per cent of which, he maintains, is spent burning "silk weed," a fast-growing strain of industrial hemp with no mind-altering properties. "They are trying to cut off our supply so there won't be a hemp market," says Roulac. "Six months from now, Canadian farmers will have warehouses bulging full of hemp seed and fiber that can't be sold in America."

A DEA spokesman says the agency became concerned about hemp shipments once it learned that seeds were being used to create edible products such as granola bars, beer and cooking oil. "What happens to the people," he adds, "who are using hemp oil to cook and THC turns up in their drug test?" In the short term, Roulac says, publicity surrounding the banned cannabis has helped increase awareness of hemp products. But Lapine, now a liaison champion of the hemp industry, wishes his investment will go up in value. "We're not a group of activists by any stretch of the imagination," he says. "We're just Canadian farmers who think we've found a nice rotation crop."

Andrew Chisholm



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Films

Romance on automatic pilot

Bereaved spouses seek sexual healing; a British hood pursues revenge

Random Hearts

Directed by Sydney Pollack

Think of it as a perverse date movie for bored couples. Identifying with Harrison Ford or Kristin Scott Thomas, you get to imagine that your spouse dies in a plane crash while flying off to Maui for an idyllicus weekend. Torn between grief and anger, you meet your counterpart, the person married to the lover who died in the next beside your spouse, and youumble into the sack—which shouldn't be so bad, because Harrison Ford and Kristin Scott Thomas are both here looking that the dead addressed. But there is a problem: neither of them seems to be in the mood. And as they grape their way through the rancorous romance of *Random Hearts*, the rodium is extricating.

Ford and Scott Thomas are on familiar ground. He plays Dutch, an unusual affable police detective who pursue the truth with unaccustomed intensity themselves his face look like it is about to implode. Scott Thomas plays a craftily expressed model of female empowerment, a New Hampshire congresswoman named Kay who is running for re-election. That is *The Horse Whisperer* without the horses; a slightly woman of influence who is living it all for a cowboy stealth over-endowed with male intuition.

Although anyone who has seen the ads for *Random Hearts* know the premise, it takes almost half an hour for Dutch and Kay to catch up—to learn their moods were together on the plane that has crashed into Chesapeake Bay. In building towards their revelation, director Sydney Pollack (*Titanic*) creates surprising tension. But once the precip-



Ford (left), Scott Thomas, *moment of love by default*

onset mere, and then began negotiating the awkward transition from grief to sex, the movie takes a final nosedive.

Ford and Scott Thomas are both outfitted with threadbare hot-and-heavy subplot. He chases a crooked black cap through the backrooms, while she finds off the spin doctor running her campaign. Based on Warren Adler's 1984 novel, *Random Hearts* was penned by Oscar-winning screenwriter薛特·拉瑞德 (*Out of Africa*), but at least five writers have taken a crack at it over the past 15 years. And this is a ring of desperation to the dialogue. "I was wondering if you would come," says Dutch when Kay shows up at his cabin. "Guy like you, girl like me, what possible moon could there be not?" she says. This is romance by default, a tale of two hearts at the mercy of a sordid script.

The Linsey
Directed by Steven Soderbergh

From the confessional intimacy of *Six Feet Under* to the cerebral artis of *Out of Sight*, Steven Soderbergh is arguably America's most innovative and versatile director. *The Linsey* is a minor

film, a simple revenge drama, but it is ingeniously crafted, in an inspired cutting coup, Soderbergh has placed two *Six Feet* icons, Terence Stamp and Peter Fonda, in roles that play on their own stars as actors forever defined by the era that moulded them. Wilson (Stamp) is a vicious ex-con who, after nine years in a British jail, visits Los Angeles to avenge the mysterious death of his daughter. His quarry is her last boyfriend, a slovenly record producer named Valentine (Fonda).

Wilson is from another world. Speaking the clipped steel sing of an old-style English hoodlum, he bull's his way through Los Angeles in a violent age, while The Who walks on the sound track. Valentine, meanwhile, is embalmed in memories of the Sixties, which he dedicates to his young girlfriend as a dream of "some place far away, half remembered when you wake up—it was just '66 and early '67. That's all it was." And to the sound of Steppenwolf, he tells a story about hitting a deer while riding his motorcicle—a glowing reference to *Easy Rider*.

For flashback to Wilson past, meanwhile, Soderbergh uses black-and-white clips from Ken Loach's 1967 film *Poor Cow*, in which Stamp plays a young gimp named Wilson. But in a move that is all Sixties flashback, the director never cuts into past nostalgia. He cuts and shuffles time frames with such deft sleight-of-hand that everything seems fresh. Constructing *The Linsey* almost entirely from cut-and-paste, Soderbergh has somehow created a movie of startling originality.

Brian D. Johnson

Pinchas Zukerman helps reinvent the National Arts Centre

A white knight hits the road

By John Geddes

Pinchas Zukerman silences the 46-member National Arts Centre Orchestra with a fumbled wince. The maestro's scherzo of Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 10 in B minor*, which they are preparing to play at a hand-miting concert featuring Joshua Bellman—Zukerman's old friend and one of his few maestros among living violinists—has hit a rough patch. With a pained expression, Zukerman counts the troublesome passage, waving an arm limply to signify the offending fiddled rhythms. Then he sings a spate, this time the way he wants to hear it, his conductor's baton blurring like a hawthornbird wing in his right hand, while his left stretches now after imagined ease out of the air. The orchestra tries it once more. As he conducts, Zukerman leans forward with an arched eyebrows and the beginning of a smile—but *not*—that makes the handsome 51-year-old maestro look like a wilful boy who is finally getting his way.

Imagine such a chapter in a farrar of a chamber.

imagine the classroom stretching across Canada. That is what an ambitious new management group at the National Arts Centre has in mind. After years of financial woe and chaotic, revolving-door leadership, the 30-year-old Ottawa institution is trying to reinvent itself as not merely a showcase for the performing arts, but also a driving force in the training of promising young musicians, actors and dancers from across the country. And the NAC's fine bid so far refutes its artless image in Zukerman's inaugural tour as its music director, with 14 concerts this month in 12 cities from Vancouver to Halifax. What is happening before shows, though, may be even more crucial for the NAC's long-term survival strategy: a heroic schedule of more than 90 teaching "outreach" events from a Zukerman-led class for talented teenage violinists in Calgary to a string quintet concert for Grade 4 pupils in Kingston, Ont.

But playing to kids sitting cross-legged on gym floors is only the start of the NAC's education thrust. A slick teacher resource kit, including a five-CD Zukerman's first recording

with his new orchestra, Vividly! *The Five Senses*, is being sent to 6,000 public schools. The idea is to get kids writing poems and painting pictures based on the music. There are classroom guides for social-studies lessons on Antonio Vivaldi's 17th-century *Venice*, and even for connecting his charming mezzosoprano to today's global warming worries. The NAC has also set up a new Web site aimed at kids and their teachers, and Zukerman will conduct a master class live on the Internet from Vancouver on Oct. 22, then answer high-school students' questions in a second "Webcast," from Fredericton slated for Oct. 29.

The NAC's new management insists all the effort to get their music and musicians into classrooms is more than a gimmick for the current tour. David Leighton, who took over as the NAC's chairman last May, and Peter Herndorf, who became its chief executive officer last month, see education as the long-term key to making the centre mean something to Canadians. And Leighton adds it may also be the best strategy for safeguarding the NAC's approximately \$20 million in annual federal funding. "The NAC has really been seen as a government-supported institution mainly for the benefit of people in Ottawa," he says. "Our ability to play a national role is going to be in the education and youth area, where Pinchas Zukerman already has a very strong reputation."

When the centre announced it was hiring the New York-based violinist and violist Yehudi Menuhin, attention focused on his claim as a top-notch performer—and the badly needed boost to ticket sales and corporate sponsorships that the financially strapped NAC was surely praying would generate. Despite serious music circles, however, few realized the NAC was also getting a dedicated teacher.

Zukerman is missioned with the education; the dedicated teacher is central to the two foci on training.

With Zukerman's devotion to teaching as its starting point, the new regime at the NAC is aiming partly to fill a void in an era when school budgets are tight and music is often viewed as a costly fluff. "We understood that we are going into a school environment that is striving to maintain an arts presence at all," says orchestra manager Chris Deacon. But Amanda Montgomery, president of the Canadian Music Education Association, argues the climate is now changing for the better, as widely publicized studies credit music with spawning childhood intellectual development. "We've been in a bad cycle the last five or six years," she says, "but now we're on an upswing." The NAC's new chief executive, former head of TVO Ottawa Peter Herndorf, is counting on his star fiddler to command a national role for his orchestra as that hoped-for resurgence of music education. "Pinchas Zukerman is not only a brilliant musician," says Herndorf, "he's a larger-than-life figure."

But is a knight? New Yorker who needs no spin, no more than three months a year in Ottawa fulfilling his NAC obligations the right front man for the job? Zukerman, who officially took up his duties as music director on July 1, says he understands those who wonder if his heart will really be in Canada—and vows to erase those doubts with hard work. "There is a paradox here, and rightly so. America is a very big animal," Zukerman, whose two adult daughters reside in the United States, points out that he has a house in Ottawa and now calls the city home. And his bond to the NAC is not new; it was forged back in 1990, when he led an orchestra on an acclaimed European tour. "If I go to little towns in Canada, or I go to Vienna or Berlin," he says, "I still say different, I can assure you."

Zukerman carries the weight of great expectation lightly. Born in 1948 in Tel Aviv, he was recognized as a prodigy when he was still a very young boy. In 1962, with the support of Isaac Stern and Pablo Casals, no less, he moved to New York to study at the Juilliard School. His teacher



Zukerman seems to convince young students that there is no substitute for feeling good

There was the legendary Ivan Galamian—fondly referred to as “Mr. G” by Zukerman. “He made you practice properly, he made you work hard, properly, he made you work properly,” Zukerman recalls. But for all Galamian’s stern insistence on “patience and perseverance,” he insisted more than anything else that technique, “Mr. G and everything that is a musical ankles it so simple,” Zukerman says, smiling. “When it sounds good, you feel good, and when you feel good, it sounds good.”

Watching Zukerman put his orchestra through its paces leaves no doubt about his passion for making it sound good. But what he wants to convey more vividly to the young students he encounters is that there is no substitute for feeling good. Zukerman conveys a sensual appreciation for life. He is, after all, famous for his love to beautiful women; one of his two wives is Tuesday Weld, the bombshell “60 Minutes” Award winner. Zukerman’s romantic attachment to the NAC orchestra is telling: blond female, Amanda Persichetti, is no secret. His love for living large adds to Zukerman’s magnetism as manager Jessica Lennartz, a gifted 16-year-old violinist from Edmonton, studied with him during his summer Young Artists Program at the NAC. While the violinist was the surprised sound of his violin, her recollections of long conversations with Zukerman are strongly devoid of tops or bowing and fingering. “We didn’t talk much about music much,” Lennartz says. “Just, I don’t know, cigar, food—he really likes that kind of stuff.”

In fact, for Zukerman, there seems to be no dividing line between “that kind of stuff” and music. So to play French composers, one must “go to Paris and taste that croissant at 7 o’clock in the morning.” As he raises, closing his eyes to call up the flavor of the melody. Maybe both. In truth, the Italian word for sweet, dolce, is used as a direction for soft, smooth playing. But Zukerman says he only came to grasp its subtler meaning by eating a pastry during his first trip to Italy back in 1967. “I went into a coffee place and somebody said, ‘Have a slice.’” He remembers with a delicious smile. “That meant a treat, but not the way we mean sweet. A dolce is a very small little thing with a fine crust and the most extraordinary croiss-like taste. Since then, playing dolce is a totally different story for me. I’m not joking.”

All his talk about food and music and feeling good might be dismissed as so much thick syrup if it were not for what pours out of his violin. At the gala with Persichetti, a sold-out black-tie event on Oct. 2, the two master fiddlers delivered a riveting rendition of Beethoven’s *Concerto for Two Violins*.



Bernadette the NAC field reporter's camera's natural image

Critic mesh for adjectives like militant to describe such playing when And Zukerman put aside his instrument, a 1742 Guarneri del Gesù worth millions, he assumed a charismatic presence as conductor. (He looked pleased with the orchestra’s outing on the tony Mendelssohn Stage.)

The question is whether Zukerman’s stage mastery can transfer onto a tangible enjoyment when he and his colleagues will ready set foot. This fall, at least, music teachers report a growing buzz. At Calgary’s Mount Royal College, where Zukerman is scheduled to conduct a class on Oct. 19, music teacher Bill van der Sloot says enrollment is running so high that he plans to hold off until the last minute before revealing which students have been picked to play for the great man. “I just want them all to keep practicing that hand,” he says. At Fredericton High School in the New Brunswick capital, Ellen Bourassa, 15, a talented pianist who also plays the cello, knows exactly what he wants to ask Zukerman in the planned January question-and-answer session on Oct. 29. “To ask him what it takes to be good.”

Most kids, of course, will not be as captivated. At an NAC orchestra rehearsal open to Ottawa high-school music classes recently, the majority of the students slouched out as soon as their teachers let them go. “It kind of felt, drugged,” explained one 15-year-old boy as he headed for the exit. Zukerman regards such a response as normal. “There will always be four to seven per cent of the people who like classical music,” he shrugs. “But that’s a lot of people.”

Celine Journeay, 18, who plays viola, and her friend Yannick St-Pierre, 18, a violinist, among the devout minority. They hang around the rehearsal room long after they are allowed to leave. “You’re just blown away” by Zukerman playing. Silence tells that music class is always the high point of her day. “When I come out,” she sighs, “I just feel better.” Like Zukerman’s mentor said, when it sounds good, you feel good. And now the NAC is waiting to find out if a coast-to-coast tour with a concert-hall-to-classroom tour, can make that good feeling spread. ■

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1Includes 10 Specialty Channels via 4-line digital. Excludes Digital Choice TV Specialty Channels. 2Includes standard outlet installations. Basic Cable installation fees are additional.

³Based on 100 Plus plus 1000000 Plus plan, additional outlet charge. Other factors affect rates. Terms and conditions may apply. Call for complete offer details.

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Books

From emerald isle to green with envy

A dreamer tussles with the American Dream

'Tis: A Memoir

By Frank McCourt
Doubleday, 367 pages, \$30.50

After the phenomenal success of *Angela's Ashes*, his Pulitzer Prize-winning 1996 memoir of growing up poor in Ireland, Frank McCourt might have been excused for taking his considerable earnings and slipping gracefully into retirement at his Coonachten country house. The alternative—writing a sequel—could have seemed rather like tying a hot coconuts' hair in one. But in *Angela's Ashes*, McCourt is nothing if not savvy. So now he continues the story of his life in 'Tis, which just a few weeks after publication has shot to the top of many best-seller lists. 'Tis begins where *Angela's Ashes* (which has been reincarnated as a soon-to-be-released movie) left off—with the 19-year-old McCourt arriving in America as the MS Irish Oak. The year is 1949, and New York City is bustling. But young Frank, a self-conscious misfit with "a puny face, nose open and bad teeth," is finding it hard to keep ahead the speeding express of American life.

He wants to, desperately. One thing that distinguishes 'Tis from its predecessor is the prevalence of envy. Back in the Limerick slums, Frank was like everyone else. But in New York, his inferiority is brought home every time he walks down the street. To be sure, there are plenty of beggars and immigrants, but what Frank sees with his red, infected eyes are the well-off. Working in a cleaner in the Biltmore Hotel, he yearns for the college girls who wade into the restaurant with



McCourt sits books full short of Angela's Ashes

short boyfriends. He is ashamed of his Irish accent and his Irish past, and he seems doomed to poverty, for he has only a grade-school education.

As everyone who reads this probably knows beforehand, McCourt ultimately climbs up the ladder of success. But much of 'Tis' charm lies in his account of how he almost didn't make it. McCourt is enough like his father—a shiftless boor who abandoned his family—to be seriously annoyed by the relentless plaudits of MacLiamhach Irish bars. At another time, he seems ready to clump down the well of his own lameness. His physical appearance repels girls, and even gets him kicked out of a Park Avenue church on Christmas day. McCourt makes the pathos of all this without mercy, but

mercifully he also lessens his role with the rough, madcap humour of *Angela's Ashes*—not a little of it centred on the parts of drinking too much and showing up in the wrong places.

McCourt is finally rescued from the Biltmore when the army drafts him in the early 1950s and strands him in Germany. The new posting allows him to take refuge in Ireland, where he is married with Angela. She is as courageous as ever, but no longer the dominant presence of *Angela's Ashes*. In that book, she assumed a giant because McCourt was only a boy. In 'Tis, she seems increasingly small, as McCourt's troubled childhood seems into the past.

Almost predictably, 'Tis fails to come up to the standard set by its predecessor. *Angela's Ashes* had an almost visionary quality, as McCourt—going through a child's wondering eyes—transformed the violence and squalor of Limerick into a feast of mystery and laughter. 'Tis is a proper rags-to-riches book because it is the story of how one man got ahead, not about how a boy created a world simply by looking at it.

Yet the tale of McCourt's success is both encouraging and instructive. Leaving the army, he sold himself two New York University, which agrees to overlook his lack of a high-school diploma. He becomes a successful teacher and marries the girl of his dreams, a pretty conventional, middle-class American who seems to represent all he longs for. But McCourt sabotages that marriage—partly by spending too much time in Irish bars. It is as if he is unmasking his own success, and even of the American Dream itself. Ultimately, a writer, he finds the gold in the mud-bowl end. But he cannot forget that treasure was buried in the odious darkness of a very different time and place.

John Bernese

Dad, Joey and me

A writer ponders his forebears' ties to the Rock

Baltimore's Mansion

A Memoir

By Wayne Johnson

Kings' Landing, 272 pages, \$32.95

Twice in his haunting new memoir of Newfoundland, Wayne Johnson recalls a strange kind of party that he and his father used to perform in Goultby, the village annual, miles south of St. John's where the family made its home. Wayne's father, Arthur, would pose questions or hints about Newfoundland history. And Johnson, who was only 4 or 5 when these exchange first began in the early 1960s, would snap back witty answers. The whole business was a setup, since Arthur had written out the responses for Johnson to memorize beforehand. But what made their reunion so fun was an encounter of Joey Smallwood. Lured by many Newfoundlanders for leading the island into Confederation in 1949, the politician got a rough going-over from father and son. When Arthur asked, "Could you do him justice in a single sentence?" Johnson would pipe back, "Death by hanging."

Johnson, now 41 and living in Toronto, claims to scarcely understand what he was saying in those exchanges. That may be so, but it seems that they helped implant Arthur's passions deeply in his son. More than 30 years later, Johnson is still wrestling, in *Baltimore's Mansion*, with the question of whether his own sorrowful, loving, querulous attitude to the Rock and its people come from just how much is he his father's son—or how much was his father shaped, in turn, by his father's hands and love? Such questions are perhaps unanswerable. But Johnson has asked them with passion and ingenuity—and created a moving portrait of a Newfoundland that no longer exists.

Johnson's book also says a great deal

about the origins of his fiction. His 1998 historical novel, *The Colony of Unpeopled Dreams*, made the shortlist for both the Governor General's Award and the Giller Prize. And last summer, it was loaded in the lead review of *The New York Times Book Review*. But in the light of the revelations in *Baltimore's Mansion*, the novel's



Johnson: sadness and grief through the paternal lens

The Divine Right (which will appear this fall in a film version scripted by Johnson himself).

For all its muckraking about the writer's past, *Baltimore's Mansion* excludes a great deal. Johnson, his father, and his paternal grandfather, Charlie, are the stars of a tale in which all his other forbears and relatives, including his mother, are reduced to shadowy, supporting roles. This approach has obvious advantages, yet it allows Johnson to put the father-son bond under a microscope, exploring themes that span three lives across three generations.

The author writes with great sensitivity about the fact that both he and his father left Newfoundland at critical points in their lives. His father temporarily abandoned the Rock in 1948 to study agricultural technology on the mainland—in defiance of Charlie, who wanted him to be a fisherman. Then, in 1981, Johnson himself left to further his writing career. It seems that around these two departures his closest reader has concealed much of the mysterious sense of anger and grief that haunts the Johnson line.

In *Baltimore's Mansion* —the book is named after a long-dead 17th-century governor's house—Johnson has generated some wonderful re-creations of events and places he himself never experienced. His picture of Charlie's forge, with the front-

whittled hands working outside to be shot, is a small masterpiece. But the book's finest achievement is its evocation of the often troubled relations between fathers and sons. In writing superbly of what so often amounts to a grudgingly suspicious, Johnson offers a gift to those who, like himself, are eager to sort out the love from the damage.

John Burnside



It took 47 years to understand the meaning of the words, "In death us do part."

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Allan Fotheringham

In praise of Percy Williams

Any day now all the sports editor in Canada will be going to town over the Canadian Press. I can guarantee it. This is not chauvinism, just brilliant.

The four letters, the millennium approaching, will be asking them to vote on who was the outstanding Canadian athlete this century. No doubt a number of them will vote for someone like Doug Flutie, who, along with not even being a Canadian, plays a game that as other country on the globe has adopted.

James Keeney, dean of the sports writers in Vancouver, has a better idea. His nominee would be someone Canada has forgotten and ignored, one Percy Williams, who weighed 139 lb. and dominated the world more than half a century ago.

A 20-year-old lad just out of King Edward High School in Vancouver—68 years before Donovan Bailey won Olympic gold in 100 m in Atlanta—did the same in the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. Two days later, he won the 200. No one had ever heard of him. He had never run internationally before. Few have heard of him since. Because he was small and frail (a childhood rheumatic fever left him with a damaged heart), he grew embittered at the arrogant sport establishment that had cheated him and became a reclusive, dying lonely and alone.

Keeney, who is supposedly settled on Bowen Island off Vancouver but still does graceful essays on CMC Radio and sends dispatches to a Fleet Street paper on Williams' 70th birthday finally found an intermediary who persuaded the old man to come for lunch. After three cocktails loosened him up, he offered for more than three hours—and let loose.

Percy and his best performance was not the Olympic olympics—but what he did after that. In the winter of 1929 he “came out” and ran the indoor circuit. He'd never run indoors before, but he won 22 races in 21 days against all the American favorites, coming second only once. “Everyone remembers Amsterdam, but nobody remembers that.”

Donovan Bailey, the poster boy for today's arrogant and selfish jock millionaire, paid \$160,000 to publicize Winnipeg's Pan-American Games and can't even be bothered with showing up for opening day or running in the star event, the 100. Little wonder that Percy Williams, who had to sell insurance to live, ranked against the sports world

At his final high-school meet in Vancouver, he set records for the 100 and 220 yards that lasted for 35 years. The 10-second fast for the 100 was on a grass track with the first 50 yards uphill and the last 10 in water. When he went to the nationals in Hamilton in 1927, his coach, Bob Geanger, a high-wheel jockey, had to wade his way there, pushing dunes on a CPR train.

When they got there, the officials found there weren't enough lanes and Percy didn't even run.

When he came back the next year for the Olympic trials, Geanger again had to work his way on the CPR train. When

Canadian teams sailed for Europe on a liner, there was no room for Geanger with all the Olympic “badges” on board, and he worked his way over on a cattle boat.

Gringet, in a little room on the edge of Amsterdam's red-light district, coached the 130-pounder on his mat against a matress shoved up against a wall. After his double win, the manager of the U.S. Olympic team said, “Williams is the greatest sprinter the world has ever seen.” As Keeney says in his dry way, “Gen. Douglas MacArthur, as the world found out in the 1940s, was given to making dramatic statements.”

He established a world record of 10 seconds for the 100-yard dash in Toronto on Aug. 9, 1929, in a race-up for the first British Empire Games in Hamilton. The record lasted 11 years. (The great Jose Owen was fast as Williams, but never surpassed his speed) In Hamilton on a cold and wet day, after a ceremony had long delayed his event after his warm-up, he won but tore a muscle high in the groin area. Thus was his last race. He was finished.

He qualified for the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles and was captain of the track team. Officials give him a one-way train ticket and \$10 in emergency money. He drove down instead, in disgrace. He finished up the track.

He never avoided another track meet, nor gave an interview until his memorable tanch with Keeney. A career bachelor, he was the sole support of his mother, who lived until 90.

One November day in 1962, Williams leaving home haphazardly to walk, he took his shotgun, climbed into his lonely Vancouver apartment and blew his head off.

Goodbye, dear old friend.



PERCY WILLIAMS, GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



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